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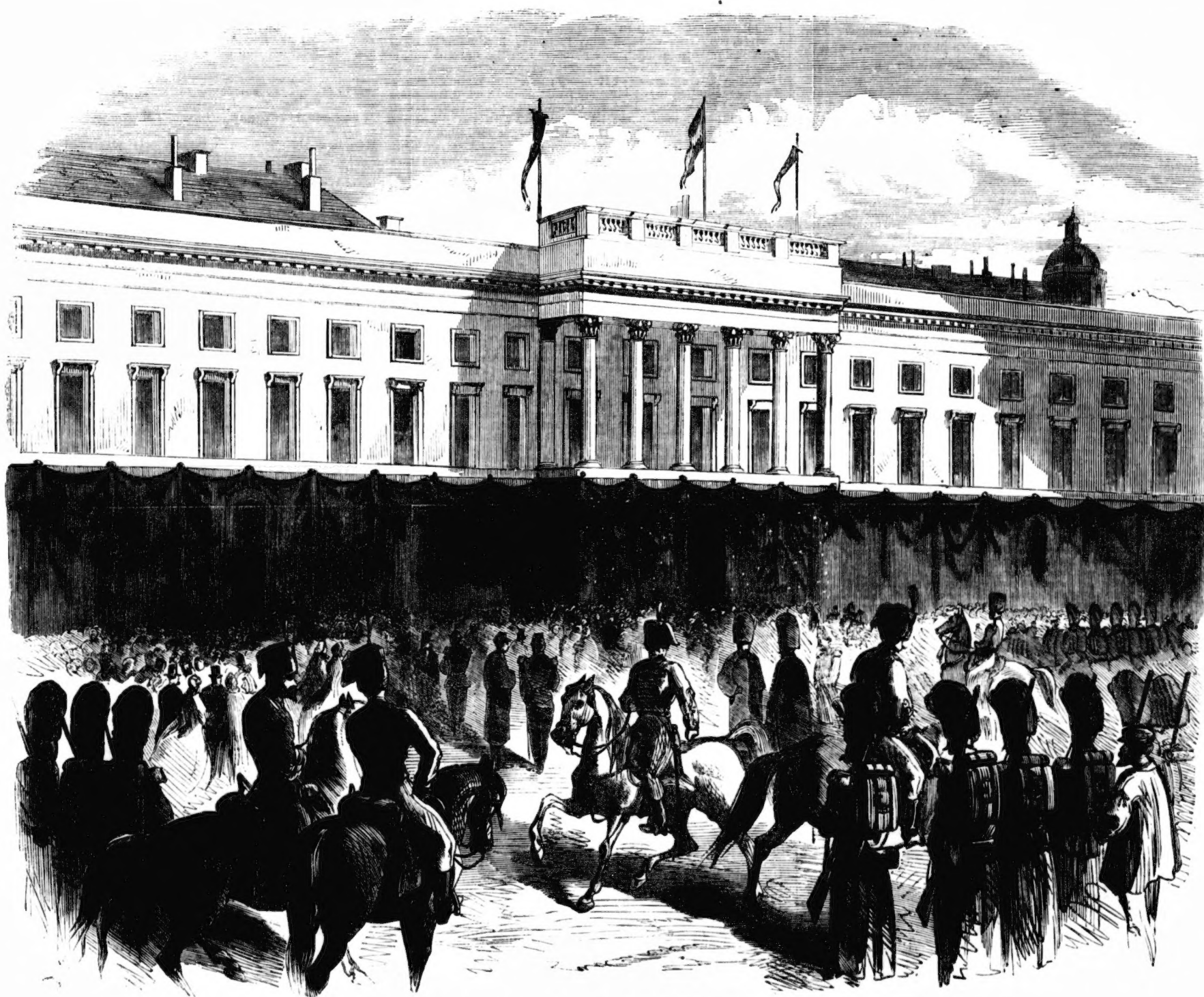
FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

CHRISTMAS is, no doubt, the most unpolitical of all seasons—at least in England; for in many countries, and especially in the east of Europe, Christmas is being kept in the midst of all sorts of political demonstrations. In Russia the “assemblies of the nobility” are held at this period of the year; and we hear that, both at St. Petersburg and Moscow, fresh demands have been made for the formation of a legislative chamber. There is no reason, however, for supposing that anything in the shape of a constitution will be granted. No despotic sovereign deliberately sets limits to his own power, unless forced to do so, either by the direct pressure of his subjects or (what comes to nearly the same thing) by the absolute necessity of conciliating them. Now, in Russia, the great mass of the people, including all the mercantile, industrial, and agricultural classes, are quite indifferent to political questions; while the aristocracy, who are undoubtedly anxious to take part in politics and to obtain a share in the government of the country otherwise than as officials, have no influence with their inferiors, and cannot possibly form a party sufficiently large

to cause any, even the slightest, alarm to the Czar. The aristocracy in Russia, though members of certain Russian families have distinguished themselves from generation to generation in the service of the State, have never, considered as a class, played an historical part, and it is very difficult for them to begin it now. But, if it is improbable that the Emperor of Russia will consent to limit his legislative power by sharing it, to however small an extent, with a regular Parliamentary Assembly, it is possible that before long he may be obliged, by the state of the Imperial finances, to form a purely consultative body of a semi-representative character. The Russian Government, by all accounts, is dreadfully in want of money, and it cannot obtain a foreign loan on moderate terms, because no one has any real knowledge of the resources of the country for purposes of taxation, nor even of the exact state of the Imperial budget, which, though during the last few years it has been published regularly in the official papers, has never yet been discussed. An oracular statement of receipts and expenditure is not sufficient to inspire confidence in foreign capitalists; and the Emperor of Russia, like his Imperial cousin of Austria, will some day, no doubt, find

it to his interest to submit his budget to an assembly empowered to examine it in detail and to accept or reject its various items. Even this would be a step in advance; but for despotic Russia to transform herself suddenly into a constitutional Russia would be to take a leap of a most astonishing kind. Russia, as now constituted, can no more transform herself into a constitutional monarchy than Austria (or the State representing what is called Austria in the present day) could have done so when, besides the Italian provinces and the kingdoms of Hungary and Bohemia, the outlying Netherlands were included in her empire.

The difficulties which Austria, even now, has to meet with are beginning to show themselves in the debates of the Hungarian Diet. The Emperor of Austria has made a proposition to the Diet, and the Diet, while accepting it as a subject of consideration, at the same time makes another proposition, which seems to us essentially different from the Imperial one. The Emperor of Austria, as we have pointed out before, wishes to satisfy Hungary, while holding the country in his power; whereas Hungary wishes, above all, not to be in Austria's



FUNERAL OF THE LATE KING LEOPOLD: THE ROYAL PALACE AT BRUSSELS DURING THE LYING IN STATE.—SEE PAGE 412.

power, so that, if Austria does not keep her promises, she may be in a position to withdraw from the compact altogether. The Emperor, though anxious to grant as much self-government as possible to the Hungarians, says plainly that he means Hungary to be included in the Austrian empire, and that Austria is to form a unity. The President and Vice-President of the Hungarian Diet say, on the contrary, that a duality must be established, and that Austria must be divided into two halves, Hungary forming one half, the rest of the Austrian empire the other. They are willing that the two halves shall be bound together, but only by one connecting link—that of a common sceptre. The majority in the Diet profess an earnest wish to come to terms; but their conditions, as hitherto made known, are certainly not those of his Majesty, and can scarcely be accepted by him. The rights of Hungary and the interests of the Austrian empire are, according to them, identical; and it is declared to be highly necessary that "the other half of the realm" shall understand this. The duty of "the other half" is further said to be "not to conquer Hungary, but, with her help, to win back for the common ruler and the entire realm that position in the councils of the European Powers to which they are rightfully entitled." It might be quite possible for the "two halves" to work harmoniously together; but we cannot believe that it is any part of the Emperor's plan to try the experiment. We neither blame the Hungarians for desiring to have an independent Government, nor the Austrian Emperor for believing that he cannot grant it without preparing the way for a dismemberment of his monarchy. The Hungarians argue that if the Emperor has confidence in them he ought not to object to their keeping in their own hands the direction of their own military and financial affairs. To this the Austrian Government may reply that unless the Hungarians meditate a secession from the empire they need not insist so strongly as they do on having a separate financial system and a separate army. There is still a wide divergence between the views of the Hungarian Diet and those of the Austrian Cabinet, and a thorough reconciliation between Hungary and Austria seems to us as difficult to bring about as ever.

The Pope has kept Christmas Day by uttering a loud lamentation, followed by a prophecy to the effect that the Church, though sorely tormented just now, will be triumphant in the end. The Pope still imagines that Napoleon III. can only hold his position so long as the fervent Catholics among his subjects choose to put up with him; and if the Emperor deserts the Church at Rome, the Pope will take care that the Church shall desert the Emperor throughout France. That, at least, seems the Holy Father's idea just at present; and the Church must indeed be in trouble, or so wild an idea would not be entertained.

UNREAPED CORN-FIELDS AT CHRISTMAS.—There are at this moment standing in the parish of Beoley, near Redditch, three fields of uncut corn, which have been allowed to go to waste, in consequence of a dispute about its ownership. The corn is standing on the Holt-end farm, and presents a sad spectacle of waste. A great quantity of the corn has shed upon the ground, and is growing again. The rest forms capital feeding-ground for the birds of the air, who visit the three fields in thousands. The wheat was an excellent crop, and when at maturity was reckoned to yield about thirty bushels per acre. The three fields are together about twenty-four acres, and the total produce, therefore, was about 720 bushels, and, valuing the produce at only 3s. per bushel, the crop was worth £200, all of which has been wasted. A few days ago a number of poor women entered one of the fields and cut off the best of the heads of corn left.

WHITE GUNPOWDER.—Captain E. Schultze, of the Prussian artillery, the inventor of what he has called white gunpowder, is now engaged in manufacturing it at Potsdam, near Berlin, on a large scale. This new substance, it seems, has none of the drawbacks of common powder—viz., the danger incurred in its manufacture and conveyance; the small proportion (about one third) of gunpowder derived from the mass employed; its cost, owing to the saltpetre and peculiar sort of charcoal it requires; the noxious gases evolved by the combustion of sulphur; the thick smoke, which is an inconvenience on board ship, in battles, and in blasting; and, lastly, the fouling of ordnance and smallarms. Captain Schultze's gunpowder is manufactured by the moist process; it is only at the end of the operation that it offers any danger, and it contains no sulphur.

LOSS OF ONE OF THE FRENCH INDIAN MAIL-STEAMERS WITH THIRTY LIVES.—Letters from Oran, dated Dec. 17, give the following:—A serious event has occurred here. The Borysthene steamer, of the Messageries Impériales Company, coming from Marseilles to this place, struck on the rocks to the north of the Ile Plane at ten o'clock on the evening of Friday, the 15th. The night was very dark, and the wind and sea high. The captain thought that he was in the neighbourhood of Mers-el-Kebir, but not seeing the lighthouse, he was uneasy. He sent the mate up aloft to look out for the light, but the latter saw nothing. Just as he had descended to announce this fact the steamer struck on a sharp rock. The captain ordered the masts to be cut away in order to enable the passengers to reach a rock which was above the water, but the ship capsized on the opposite side to that on which the masts were to fall, and the waves breaking over her a number of persons were washed into the sea. Some time after, however, the disembarkation of the passengers on the rock commenced; they were followed by the crew, and, last of all, by the captain. The operation lasted six hours. Just after it was completed a balancelle approached the rock, and, seeing what had happened, returned to Oran for assistance. The military and other authorities immediately sent vessels to carry the shipwrecked people to land. There were about 300 passengers on board the ship, and from thirty to forty of them perished. The ship is broken up, and all it had on board, including the mails, is lost. The precise number of persons drowned is not known, as the list of the passengers has disappeared. Among them is a captain of engineers, named Lafont. The mate and six of the crew have perished.

MUTILATION IN JAMAICA.—Sir William Ferguson writes to the *Lancet* to say that he has seen one case of mutilation by the negroes in Jamaica which is sufficient to appal even him who has "supped full of horrors." He says:—"A gentleman, a fellow-countryman, nearly related to several of the most conspicuous men in our profession, about sixty years of age, of handsome and attractive features, with silver-grey hairs—a front of Jove himself, and a skull of Caucasian beauty, was on a visit to his friend, Mr. Hire, near St. Thomas's, when the Jamaica rebellion broke out. His friend was a little prepared for such an event as he was, and so, when a mob of 300 infuriated negroes appeared at the house some eighteen hours after the Courthouse outbreak, they were helpless. Poor Hire was dispatched on the instant, and so, it was supposed, was the gentleman to whom I now refer. After a brief and fruitless resistance he was beaten down, covered with bruises and outlast wounds. He must have met his death had not a native woman held him down and whispered in his ear that to rise again would be fatal. Bruised, sickened, and faint from loss of blood, he lay unconscious until roused by a severe blow on the leg. Again he became unconscious, and once again he was roused by a blow from a stick across the region of the liver. A swoon was the result; and when he again became conscious it was to find himself covered with blood and helpless beside the murdered body of his friend and host. By a sort of miracle this gentleman is now alive. I saw a large number of those who came wounded from the Crimea and from the East Indies, but hardly one who bore such marks of violence. I saw an officer who at Inkerman sustained and survived eighteen flesh wounds from swords and bayonets; but few carried such conspicuous marks as this sufferer recently returned from our 'brothers' in Jamaica. There are six wounds (now scars) on his scalp, averaging 3 in. or 4 in. in length, any one of which might have made a surgical look serious; and the after-dread (supposed) blows still leave their evils behind. A strong man for his age is now helpless as a child, and such strength as he has is to be attributed to the watchful care and attention of the authorities on board the vessel by which he has just arrived in England."

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The Emperor and Empress have paid a visit to the new building of the Tribunal of Commerce.

The International Sanitary Conference, which is to be held at Constantinople, will assemble in the beginning of January.

An Imperial decree has been published appointing the members of the presidency of the Senate. They are the same as before. By another decree M. De Sacy and St. Marsault and General Gadin have been raised to the dignity of Senators.

The *Patris* says that France and England have not offered mediation to Spain on the Chilian question, but their good offices only, which have been accepted by the Spanish Government.

BELGIUM.

The Chamber of Representatives has unanimously voted a bill fixing the Royal Civil List at 3,300,000*fr.* during the King's reign, and granted an extraordinary credit of 700,000*fr.* for restoring the interior of the Royal residences.

SPAIN.

It is semi-officially announced that, since the recognition of Italy by Spain, the Pope has sent an affectionate letter to Queen Isabella, rendering justice to her Majesty's religious sentiments.

The Government has taken precautions against depredations by Chilian privateers upon Spanish commerce; some suspicious-looking vessels, supposed to be Chilian cruisers, having been seen off Cadiz and other ports.

The Queen opened the Cortes in person on Wednesday. In reference to foreign affairs, her Majesty said, in the speech from the throne:—

My desire for peace has not been able to prevent the commencement of hostilities between this country and Chilian, which had obstinately refused to make amends for wrongs done to the Spanish nation during the Peruvian difficulty. The Government will give an account to the Cortes of the progress of the war and of any negotiations that may take place in connection therewith. Desirous of respecting the independence of the States of South America, founded on the ancient colonies of Spain, I have signed a treaty recognising the independence of San Salvador. My relations with the other foreign Powers continue favourable. Various reasons, originating in a desire permanently to promote the interests of the nation, have induced me to recognise the Italian Kingdom; but that recognition cannot weaken those feelings of respect and devotion to the Holy Father common to all the faithful, nor lessen my firm intention to watch over the rights of the Holy See.

ITALY.

The Italian Ministry, having been outvoted on a collateral question of finance, have resigned. Signor Sella proposed to raise £4,000,000 by a tax of 10 per cent upon corn when taken to the mill, and the feeling of the Chamber was so marked that the Ministry took advantage of a vote, directing them not to allow the National Bank to transact business for the Treasury without Parliamentary sanction, to resign. The King had arrived in Florence, and, it was said, had commissioned General della Marmora to form a new Cabinet, but nothing definite has yet been made public. His Majesty had also had interviews with Baron Ricasoli and other leading politicians.

Large numbers of brigands have lately taken refuge in the Papal dominions; and it is reported that two chiefs, Capasso and Antonucci, with six of their followers, have spontaneously surrendered to the Pontifical authorities, in consequence of the late edict issued against brigandage at Frosinone.

AUSTRIA.

The Emperor of Austria opened the Hungarian Diet in person on the 14th inst., at Pesth. In his speech, which was most warmly received, the Kaiser declared that there had been "perversion of right upon the one hand, and stubborn assertion of right on the other;" that he took his stand upon the Pragmatic Sanction, which recognises the autonomy of Hungary; that Croatia and Slavonia would be re-united to the kingdom; that he had laid before them the Patent of February, 1861, for consideration; that their amendments on that diploma must be "consistent with the life of the monarchy;" that the laws of 1848, which affect our rights as ruler and limit the operation of Government, must "be revised, or, more probably, transformed;" that when this was done he would take the oath and consent to coronation; and that if he succeeded in reconciling Hungary he should "bless the day which ripened his determination to revive confidence between ruler and people." The allusion to the laws of 1848 is to two of them—one investing the Palatine with most of the Royal prerogative, the other establishing the responsibility of Ministers.

At the sitting of the Lower House of the Hungarian Diet on the 22nd, Herr Carl von Szentivanyi, the newly-elected President, upon assuming the chair, delivered the following address:—

Most Honourable Deputies.—The country in whose name we are here assembled, and the nation which has chosen us as its representatives, do not expect from us long speeches, but salutary acts. In taking up this honourable position to which I have been called by the confidence of the House, and while welcoming the representatives of the people from the bottom of my heart and thanking them most sincerely for the choice that has fallen upon me, I shall offer as few and as brief remarks as may be possible.

I will not dwell upon the sorrows and sufferings of past times, but rather turn to the future, which smiles upon us with joyful hope. The present summer was the first occasion for many years when new confidence began to arise in the hearts of the nation, and the last clouds began to disappear from the horizon of our country. The long-expected Diet was opened, and his Majesty spoke to us with that sincere confidence that invariably arouses sincerity and confidence in return. The Royal speech set aside for ever that dangerous doctrine which occasioned so much bitterness and rendered all sincere approach impossible—the detestable doctrine of forfeiture of right, and chose as point of departure the mutually admitted basis of the Pragmatic Sanction. His Majesty further recognised in the speech from the throne the political and autonomous independence of Hungary and the adjacent countries guaranteed by the Pragmatic Sanction, and declared that the Crown would keep intact all clauses of that compact referring to the integrity of the Hungarian Crown.

Upon this clear and firm legal foundation we must and will settle the pending political questions; and, although we cannot conceal from ourselves that we shall have to encounter serious obstacles, we may yet hope that pure patriotism, mutual confidence, and invincible good-will may set them aside and secure a happier future, to the general satisfaction both of the country and the ruler of Hungary.

I will not touch now upon those important matters which must precede that sublimest of all our tasks—the coronation of his Majesty, so ardently desired by the people and imperatively demanded by our Constitution. Nor will I allude to those numerous laws whose introduction at the earliest possible moment is so urgently required by our moral and material interests. All these will come before you in due order and at the appointed time. I will only now implore the blessing of Providence upon the Diet, and fulfil the first of my presidential duties by declaring this House constituted according to the spirit of our laws.

The President's speech was followed by an address from Count Julius Andrássy, the senior Vice-President. He said:—

Honourable House.—We may safely leave the judgment of the Diet of 1861 to the appreciation of posterity which is not only guided by results, but takes into consideration the difficulties of a given position; which not only inscribes success, but also manly desire and perseverance in its pursuit upon the page of history. I will not attempt to connect our position now with that of the Diet of 1861, but merely cast a glance upon our past and our present situation.

The Diet of 1861 did all that it then could in face of the system of forfeiture of right at that time existing when it pointed to that basis upon which confidence between Prince and people is most securely placed—the basis of continuity of right. But that Diet was unable to create anything new: it needed all its strength for defence—for preservation.

That really Royal initiative alone, which will be reckoned among the happiest occurrences in the history of our country, has released us from this painful position. While the manifesto of Sept. 20, and subsequently the Royal speech from the throne, recognise the Pragmatic Sanction as our basis of right, propositions respecting affairs considered common are expected from us, to whose final validity the free assent of all peoples of the realm is essential (Eigenthum).

This, gentlemen, is an extraordinarily great and difficult task, rendered still more arduous thereby that, while the initiative is entrusted to us, we do not know who, in addition to our common ruler, will be called to solve this problem ("Very true!")

But we must not despond, for it is impossible that the rights upon which the realm has been founded, although in conformity with circumstances suspended, have yet nevertheless consistently continued to exist, with which

the realm has already subsisted for centuries, it is impossible that these rights should be opposed to the conditions of life of the collective empire.

We must not despond, for this is not the first time that it has been the will of Providence that Hungary should take part in the decision of European questions. Confiding in the good fortune of the nation, we may hope that Hungary, which has overcome so many dangers and always issued from them stronger than before, will not belie her reputation upon this occasion as well (Cheers).

Still, in order that we may attain success as securely as possible, I believe one of our tasks will lie—thereby in a manner completing the work of the Diet of 1861—in demonstrating that the right of this nation is also the interest of the realm. Therefore I think it desirable to convince the peoples of the other half of the empire that when the common ruler restores the integrity of Hungary he strengthens the whole realm, for the Crown of St. Stephen unites the interest of many races through the rights and liberties of a Constitution a thousand years old, and places their centre of gravity in the middle of the realm. We must convince them that while the common ruler recognises the principle of continuity of right upon the basis of the Pragmatic Sanction he acts as much in their interest as in ours, for a continuity of right cannot be begun from a given day; it can only be preserved in constant action. Before, therefore, it would have been possible to put this principle in practice in both halves of the monarchy, both halves must have had returned to them what was their exclusive property.

It is necessary and desirable that those who are called to guide the destinies of the hereditary States—taking into consideration the nature of the elements of Austria—should perceive that the realm does not belong to those States which increase in strength and durability by centralising legislation, but that she is an exceptional State, which can only be great and powerful by alliance with the past and with history.

Lastly, it is necessary that the other half of the realm should rightly understand its interest and its task. These do not consist in conquering Hungary, but with her help in winning back for the common ruler and the entire realm that position in the council of the European Powers to which they are rightfully entitled (Great applause).

It is only when all, summoned by the Royal word to ultimate co-operation in the great work, are fully convinced of these truths that we can safely calculate upon the result which is the ardent desire of us all. That desire is to see both halves of the monarchy equally free and constitutional in their own way (Loud cheers).

DENMARK.

In the sitting of the Rigsdag on the 22nd inst. the bill for the reform of the Constitution was finally adopted. It must, however, by the Constitution of the country, be passed in the two next Sessions of the Rigsdag before it becomes valid.

THE UNITED STATES.

We have intelligence from New York to the 16th inst.

Resolutions had been introduced into Congress, and referred to the committee on foreign affairs, declaring the establishment of the Mexican empire by France to be opposed to the declared policy of the Federal Government, offensive to the people, and contrary to the spirit of their institutions. The resolutions further require the President "to take such steps concerning this grave matter as will vindicate the recognised policy and protect the honour and interest of the American Government." Both Houses had requested the President to furnish papers respecting Mexico.

The Senate had adopted the resolution of the House for appointing a committee to decide the claims of Southern members to seats with some slight amendments favourable to the South. The House of Representatives subsequently adopted the resolution as amended by the Senate. The House afterwards passed a resolution embodying that portion of the resolution which the Senate had rescinded, whereby it was provided that the papers and credentials of the Southern members shall be referred to a committee without debate, and that no member shall be admitted until Congress declares his State entitled to representation. The House also unanimously adopted a resolution declaring that treason is a crime, and ought to be punished.

President Johnson had informed the Provisional Governor of Georgia that, while sanctioning the inauguration of the Governor Elect, this inauguration will not terminate the duties of the Provisional Governor, who will be informed of the time when he will be relieved.

Washington despatches assert that the popular and congressional manifestations of sympathy towards Mexico had led to a correspondence between M. Montholon, the French Ambassador, and Mr. Seward, in consequence of which M. Montholon had dispatched the Chief Secretary of Legation to France for definite instructions regarding the Mexican question. It was rumoured that M. Montholon had intimated to the Federal Government that in case a Federal Minister is accredited to Juarez the French Legation would leave Washington. A Cabinet meeting had been held upon Mexican matters, at which General Grant was present.

The *New York Times* contains a rumour that General Logan will, after opening relations with Juarez, propose a treaty of commerce between the United States and Mexico, guaranteeing to American citizens important rights and privileges on the transit lines from the Mexican Gulf to the Pacific coast, and opening the Mexican market free to American manufactures. In exchange for these privileges, which could be guaranteed, if necessary, by military intervention, the United States would lend Mexico 20,000,000*dols.*, or guarantee Mexican bonds to that amount.

MEXICO.

It is stated in New York papers that Senor Romero, the agent of the Mexican Republic, had received advices announcing that Escobedo, after raising the siege of Matamoros, left for Monterey to raise resources.

Juarez had written a letter to the Mexican Consul at San Francisco stating that his family and personal interests incline him to retire into private life, and that he will joyfully resign the presidency as soon as a new election can be held. In the mean time, however, Juarez has declared his tenure of office extended for another year.

CHINA.

According to advices from Hong-Kong to Nov. 15, Sir Rutherford Alcock had set out for the Taku Forts, en route for Peking, and had hitherto met with no opposition. At Shanghai and in Hong-Kong his Excellency was met by deputations, by whom he was intrusted with several matters to be laid before the Imperial Cabinet.

The English Consul at Swatow had gone to Chaochow, in order, it was presumed, to open that place to Europeans under the Tien-Tsin treaty.

Some gun-boats had attacked a fleet of piratical vessels, destroying ten craft and capturing a lorch.

JAPAN.

Advices from Japan state that the British, French, and Dutch Ministers had started for the residence of the Mikado, with the object, it was supposed, of obtaining his consent to the Tycoon's treaties, and of opening Osaka and Hiogo to foreign trade. Later intelligence announces that the Mikado had refused to open the ports. The Foreign Ministers had referred the question to their respective Governments. The fleets had returned to Yokohama.

Another of the murderers of Major Baldwin and Lieutenant Bird had been captured at Jeddo. He confessed his crime and was executed.

NEW ZEALAND.

A telegram from Wellington, New Zealand, represents matters as somewhat improving in the colony. A large number of the Hau-Hau fanatics had been captured, and had taken the oath of allegiance. The Stafford Ministry was in office, and at the same time that the expenditure was being reduced the revenue was increasing.

FORWARD, ALIAS SOUTHEY, THE MURDERER.—This criminal was tried at Maidstone, last week, for the murder of his wife and child at Ramsgate, and was sentenced to death. He conducted himself in a somewhat singular way during the trial, evidently with the view of supporting the plea of insanity which was set up on his behalf. Notoriety at any price seems to have been Southey's guiding principle. He was preposterously vain of what he imagined to be his literary talent, and was constantly in the habit of sending MSS. to the office of *All the Year Round*. These contributions being utterly worthless were declined, and on receiving notice to this effect Southey wrote a series of insolent personal letters to Mr. Charles Dickens, informing him, among other things, that as these articles were suppressed through jealousy, he, Southey, would make a public exposure of Mr. Dickens's conduct in the transaction in a published letter, to be addressed to "David Copperfield, Esq., Murderers' Den, Rottenborough."

ENGLAND AND THE UNITED STATES.

A SERIES of twelve official documents, which have been exchanged between Mr. C. F. Adams, the American Minister in London, and her Britannic Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, on the subject of the late cruiser *Shenandoah*, have been published, in continuation of the correspondence on this subject previously issued.

The first of these communications is from Mr. Adams to Earl Russell, and is dated on the 21st of October last. In it the American Minister takes occasion to specifically state that, "in view of the origin, equipment, and manning of that vessel (*Shenandoah*), my Government claims to look to that of Great Britain for indemnification for this and other losses that have been occasioned by her depredations." Mr. Adams then recapitulates at length the presumed facts of the case, and argues in support of the position his Government had assumed. On the 25th of October Earl Russell acknowledged receipt of this communication in the briefest terms; and on the 7th of November, when Mr. Adams's next letter was dated, it was addressed to Lord Clarendon, who had just assumed office. This letter officially communicated to the Foreign Secretary the news that the *Shenandoah* had come into the Mersey, and her Majesty's Government was requested to take possession of the ship with the view of delivering her over to the United States, that her career of lawlessness might be surely brought to a close, and that the property on board might be taken care of. Concerning the disposition of the crew, Mr. Adams expressed the hope that under the circumstances her Majesty's Government "will be induced voluntarily to adopt that which may most satisfy my countrymen." To this last letter, Lord Clarendon replied on the 11th of November, having simply acknowledged receiving it on the 7th. After informing Mr. Adams that on the previous day (the 10th), the *Shenandoah*, which had been given up by her captain to the British naval authorities had by them been formally delivered to the representative of the United States, Lord Clarendon goes on to state that there were several severe cases of illness among the crew of the *Shenandoah*; and that instant action for disposing of those on board appeared to him necessary; that any proceedings against these men could only be taken upon some definite charge of an offence cognisable by British law and supported by evidence; and that, in the absence of such charge, her Majesty's Government could not assume the power of keeping any of them under any kind of restraint. But the Government did not possess any evidence to invalidate the assertions of Captain Waddell, whose report upon arrival (already published) Lord Clarendon inclosed. It remained, however, to ascertain whether any of the crew were British subjects, who would, in that case, be liable under the provisions of the Foreign Enlistment Act. "In pursuance of these instructions the senior naval officer at Liverpool at once proceeded on board the *Shenandoah*, and, having mustered the crew, he reports himself to have been 'fully satisfied that they were all foreigners, and that there were none known to be British-born subjects on board; whereupon they were all landed with their effects.'"

Mr. Adams wrote on the 14th of the same month, stating that the prompt delivering up of the *Shenandoah* to the United States would "give great satisfaction to my Government;" but affirming that, as regarded the release of the crew, he should "carefully abstain from any authorised word of mine which might tend to make a situation already much too grave still more serious." On the 18th of November the Earl of Clarendon replied to Mr. Adams's communication of the 21st of October, in which the American Minister enunciated the claim of his Government for indemnification from losses resulting from the cruise of the *Shenandoah*. His Lordship argued that the circumstances of the vessel's equipment were not such as in the eye of the English law, or, consequently, in the view of the English Government, could be regarded as illegal. Alluding pointedly to Mr. Adams's assertion that her Majesty's Government had, by receiving the *Shenandoah* into port after knowing of her origin and manner of outfitting, assumed a responsibility for all the damage done, Lord Clarendon says:—"If I needed (which in this case I do not) to find an answer to a claim founded upon such principles, I should have to seek no further than the records of recent American law and the practice of modern American statesmen." On the same day (Nov. 18) Mr. Adams addressed Lord Clarendon, beginning his letter with a statement of "the most profound regret that I am thus compelled to open my relations with your Lordship in a spirit of controversy." The letter was in reply to that one of Earl Russell's dated Nov. 2 (published with the first portion of this correspondence on the 11th ult.), in which his Lordship argued against the liability of Great Britain on this question from the precedent negotiations of the Government of the United States with the Government of Portugal on a like occasion. Mr. Adams now maintained that the respective action of the United States towards Portugal, and of Great Britain towards the United States, differed so essentially and radically as to make it impossible to bring them within a reasonable parallel. The two letters which conclude the series are appended.

MR. ADAMS TO THE EARL OF CLARENDON.

Legation of the United States, London, Nov. 21, 1865.

My Lord,—I have the honour to inform your Lordship that the notes elicited by the proposal for a commission to consider certain classes of claims growing out of the late difficulties in the United States made by your predecessor, the Right Honourable Earl Russell, in his letter addressed to me on the 30th of August last, have received the careful consideration of my Government. Adhering, as my Government does, to the opinion that the claims it has presented, which his Lordship has thought fit, at the outset, to exclude from consideration, are just and reasonable, I am instructed to say that it sees now no occasion for further delay in giving a full answer to his Lordship's proposition. I am directed, therefore, to inform your Lordship that the proposition of her Majesty's Government for the creating of a joint commission is respectfully declined. I pray your Lordship to accept the assurances of the highest consideration, with which I have, &c.,

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS.

THE EARL OF CLARENDON TO MR. ADAMS.

Foreign Office, Dec. 2, 1865.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th ultimo having reference to the letter which my predecessor addressed to you on the 3rd ultimo. There are many statements in your letter which I should be prepared to controvert if it were not that her Majesty's Government consider that no advantage can result from prolonging the controversy, of which the topics are generally exhausted, but which might possibly, if continued, introduce acrimony into the relations between this country and the United States, two nations who, from kindred, origin, and mutual interest, should desire to be knit together by bonds of the closest friendship. Such a desire is strongly felt by the Government and people of this country, and her Majesty's Government do not doubt that it is shared by the Government and people of the United States. While abstaining, therefore, from any discussion of the passages in your letter to the correctness of which I am unable to subscribe, it is nevertheless my duty, in closing this correspondence, to observe that no armed vessel departed during the war from a British port to cruise against the commerce of the United States, and to maintain that throughout all the difficulties of the civil war by which the United States have lately been distracted, but in the termination of which no nation rejoices more cordially than Great Britain, the British Government have steadily and honestly discharged all the duties incumbent on them as a neutral Power, and have never deviated from the obligations imposed on them by international law.—I am, &c.,

CLARENDON.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—A refreshment room has just been opened at the British Museum, for the convenience of visitors to that establishment. The purveyor, Mr. R. H. Maffitt, has been appointed by the trustees upon the express condition that he should supply light refreshment of every kind, and of the best quality, at a moderate cost. Parties visiting the Museum from a distance have long felt the want of this accommodation, which, until very lately, was only to be obtained outside the walls of the Museum. This addition to the comfort of visitors has been procured for them by the Principal Librarian, Mr. Penzance. The entrance to the refreshment-room is from the Greek and Roman Galleries.

BOXING DAY IN LONDON.—Tuesday was observed as a holiday in London more generally than is usual on the day after Christmas Day. A great majority of the shops were quite closed, and during the forenoon the streets were more than ordinarily thronged by pleasure-seekers, while the traffic of carts and carriages sometimes appeared to have ceased altogether. Toward evening it rained a little and threatened much more, the streets looked wet and deserted, and so sombre, without the shoplights, that a foreigner would hardly have imagined their aspect was indicative of public jollity. But as the hour came on for the theatres to be opened, everybody seemed to crowd the principal streets and to put on fresh life.

ROW AMONG THE AMERICAN FENIANS.

THE Fenians in America have come to grief. John O'Mahony and the "senate," not being quite prepared to fight England, have decided to employ the interval in fighting each other. The "senate" impeaches O'Mahony with fraud, and O'Mahony charges the "senate" with "perfidy." The "senate" impeaches O'Mahony and turns him out of office, and O'Mahony retaliates by kicking the "senate" out of doors. The brotherhood stand aghast at the sudden explosion in New York, for Fenian unity is gone for ever; but the American public, who always have great zest for Hibernian amusements, cheer both combatants to the contest. The battle just now seems to go in favour of O'Mahony, for he holds the "capitol" and the funds. But that fortune will not always cling to him is certain, for the enemy have cut off his supplies, and the odds of ten senators against one O'Mahony is rather too great, even for an Irish fight. This singular close to one of the strangest enterprises of modern times deserves some little history. How long the Fenian authorities have been quarrelling with each other is not known, for, however bitter the feud, they have managed, until within a week, to keep it a profound secret. Being so long smothered, the explosion when it came was proportionately disastrous, and the Fenian Brotherhood, apparently harmonious a short time ago, is now rent into factions that no earthly power can unite. The original cause of the quarrel seems to have been the dissatisfaction felt by the Fenians with O'Mahony's ostentatious display at New York. He secured a large house in a fashionable quarter, paid 18,000 dols. per annum rent for it, fitted it up in grand style for the "capitol," and began spending the Fenian funds with no parsimonious hand. In the past few weeks, according to an account given, he has spent no less than 402,000 dols. The "brethren," unused to this style of conquering Ireland, and perhaps thinking that O'Mahony might prefer a comfortable home this cold weather to risking his health in a campaign, began to murmur. With an Irishman a murmur means a blow at the first opportunity. Such lavish expenditure of poor people's money must be stopped, and, accordingly, the "senate" met in New York, and two thirds of them framed and signed the statement repudiating the bonds which President O'Mahony had issued. Some 750,000 dols. in bonds, that someone's good money has paid for, are declared "invalid and illegal," and "a fraud on the organisation." The "senate" says that O'Mahony got the money for them, and the brotherhood will not pay them. O'Mahony replies on Dec. 7, in an address to the Fenians, in which he calls the "senate" "ten long-time malcontents," who are bribed with "British gold," and states, with the profoundest wisdom, that the bonds he issued will be paid quite as soon as those issued by the senate. The senate is furious at this, and immediately leaves the stylish Fenian "capitol" and assembles at a neighbouring house in the Broadway, where articles of impeachment are prepared against O'Mahony, and the public anticipate a trial rivalled only by that of Warren Hastings. But "perfidy," the charge against O'Mahony, being a crime peculiar to Fenianism, no investigation of eight years' duration is necessary to prove it; for the "senate" adopt the novel expedient of serving the charges on the criminal with notice to plead within twenty-four hours, under penalty of having judgment by default recorded against him. The criminal, however, is equally fertile in expedients, and pleads in true Hibernian style. On the afternoon of Dec. 8 all New York was convulsed with laughter at the following notice, posted on the front door of the Fenian "capitol":—

NOTICE.—It being deemed advisable to keep dishonest persons from the offices of the head-quarters of the Fenian Brotherhood, as well as the enemies of the Fenian Brotherhood from its immediate valuables, the following persons are excluded for perfidy until further notice.

Per order,

JOHN O'MAHONY, President F.B.

Then follow the names of the ten "senators" who impeached the president, and to whose charge he pleads in this Irish style of calling them thieves. This plea, unrivalled by anything that has occurred in ancient or modern trials of celebrity, enraged the "senate," and they decided upon a coup d'état, and on Dec. 9 resolved themselves into a high court of impeachments, declared O'Mahony guilty because he did not appear, deposed him from office, and elevated in his place William B. Roberts, the president of the senate. Mr. Roberts, nothing loth, at once takes the oath of office, and the Fenians, who boast of having two head centres in Ireland, are discovered to have two presidents in America. O'Mahony holds on at the "capitol," in Union-square, while Roberts maintains his headquarters at the senate chambers in Broadway. O'Mahony having endeavoured to win the affections of the brotherhood by telling them his bonds would be paid quite as soon as those issued by the "senate," Roberts retaliated by stating that "no compensation shall be attached to the position of president while he occupies it," to which O'Mahony retorts that no man wishes compensation when he can steal his legal salary over and over again. Both presidents are out in lengthy addresses to the brotherhood, in which very little of the customary abuse of England is found, but they labour each other in a manner peculiarly refreshing to lovers of Hibernian rows.

Of course, the Fenians themselves have quickly taken sides with one or other of the belligerents. The two great centres of Fenianism in America are Chicago and New York. Chicago telegraphs, "We intend a public demonstration sustaining the action of the senate," and endorsing Roberts. New York takes the opposite tack, for a convention of delegates from the various circles in that city has endowed O'Mahony "as foremost among the boldest, truest, and most talented defenders of the cause." Philadelphia and St. Louis have reported in favour of Roberts; and O'Mahony, not quite satisfied with the support of New York, has fallen back upon Ireland to make a flank movement. He has trotted out a Mr. O'Sullivan, who, it seems, is to be a sort of Titus Oates for O'Mahony's government. Mr. O'Sullivan signs himself "late centre from Malloy, County Cork, Ireland;" and, being lately from the front, where he is supposed to have seen the enemy, he is justly regarded as an oracle on Fenian affairs. Mr. O'Sullivan has all the materials for a genuine plot against the Fenian government. He reports that Roberts declared to him that he would overthrow the present Fenian organisation and substitute a new one in its place, and that other "senators" declared they would tear down the present brotherhood and erect one suited to themselves. Mr. O'Sullivan triumphantly flaunts his plot in Roberts's face; but is quickly met by the retort that he is a liar, and that he had much better have remained in Ireland, instead of cowardly running away from British constables to stir up dissension in America. Each day the Fenian quarrel grows fiercer, and we have the Kilkenny cat battle enacted over again. The brotherhood is broken beyond repair; the heads of both parties are denounced as thieves and swindlers; the subscription to the bonds has ceased; the Catholic priests are thundering anathemas against the tottering cause; and it is evident that the days of this latest absurdity are numbered.

REGULATION OF STREET TRAFFIC.

A BILL for the better regulation of the street traffic in the City has been printed and circulated by the authorities at Guildhall. It has been prepared by the City Remembrancer and Solicitor, with the assistance of Colonel Fraser, the City Commissioner of Police, and Mr. Oke, the chief clerk to the Lord Mayor. The preamble recites that it is expedient that better provision than now exists should be made for the regulation of the traffic of the city of London, so as to prevent obstructions, and so that it may be conducted with less delay and in a safer manner than at present. It also recites that for these purposes it had become necessary to amend the City Police Act, passed upwards of twenty-five years ago. The bill first of all repeals the City Traffic Regulation Act of 1833, which has proved a failure so far as there has been any very perceptible relief to the traffic or any greater safety to life and limb. That Act, however, and the by-laws made under it by the Court of Aldermen, are to remain in force until the

new bill comes into operation, if it should pass into a law. It then empowers the Lord Mayor and aldermen to make, from time to time, with respect to the City, such by-laws as they may think necessary or expedient—first, for regulating the routes to be followed and the particular streets or parts of streets to be used by all or any of the omnibuses, metropolitan stage carriages, vans, and other carriages licensed for the conveyance of passengers; second, for regulating the height and width to which carts, waggons, drays, and other vehicles for the conveyance of goods, wares, and merchandise, traversing the streets between nine in the morning and six in the evening, may be laden, and for regulating the breadth between the outsides of the wheels; third, for determining the periods of the day between which vehicles conveying goods, wares, and merchandise may stop in any street to be laden or unladen, and the time during which they may remain for such purposes; fourth, for regulating the manner in which barrows, trucks, hand-carts, and the like, may be driven, pushed, or wheeled through any street or part of a street, and the particular streets or parts of streets, and the particular time or part of the day, in which they may be allowed to pass or to stand or remain, or be prohibited from standing or passing. Also for regulating the mode in which cabs or hackney-carriages shall be distinguished when hired and when not hired; for determining the time of day during which cabs and beer may be delivered; for regulating the rate at which vans may be driven through specified streets, and generally for preventing obstructions in the streets. The by-laws may be varied, altered, and repealed as the Court of Aldermen may consider expedient, and every person offending against them is to be liable to a penalty of not more than £5 for every such offence. The by-laws, however, are not to be enforced until confirmed by a principal Secretary of State, who is empowered to suggest alterations in them. No by-law is to be submitted for such approval until one month after the intention to apply for such approval shall have been duly advertised. The by-laws, when so made and approved, are also to be properly advertised and posted at the Mansion House, the Guildhall, the Royal Exchange, and other public places. By the bill there are to be no loads driven through the streets with more than four horses between nine in the morning and six in the evening; no locomotives between six in the morning and ten at night; no timber or other articles exceeding a certain size between nine in the morning and six in the evening. Each of these offences is punishable by a fine of not more than £5. Again, every person will render himself liable to a like fine who shall drive or conduct any covered or tilted cart, van, or waggon through the streets unless the horse or horses are led or driven from a box, or, if driven from the inside, unless the vehicle be so constructed as to enable the driver to see into the street laterally as well as in front of him. Above all, every person under the age of fourteen is to be expressly prohibited from having the temporary charge of a waggon, cart, or carriage, and the animal drawing the same in a street, the penalty in this case being leviable on the person intrusting the charge to another of less than that age. Again, persons under twenty years of age are not to be allowed to drive vehicles drawn by more than one horse; and persons under sixteen are prohibited from driving at all; the penalties in these cases falling upon the owners who may offend against the law. Various kinds of defined obstructions on footways are also prohibited, under penalties, as is also the placing a flower-pot or box, or other matter or thing, in any upper window without sufficiently guarding it from being blown or thrown down. The City Commissioner of Police is likewise, with the consent of the Court of Aldermen, empowered to license street shoeblacks and commissionaires or messengers to exercise their calling in the City, and to appoint places at which they may stand.

There is a most important and entirely novel provision in the bill—namely, that empowering the City Commissioners of Sewers, with the consent of the Court of Common Council, to construct bridges and subways for the accommodation of foot passengers at crossings or intersections of streets, wherever they may think such accommodation is required; and to purchase houses or land for the purpose of forming the necessary approaches; and to defray the costs of such bridges, subways, and purchases out of the consolidated rate. Of late there have been several fatal accidents, as there have often been before, at crossings in various parts of the city, and the danger at such places to life and limb appears to be greater than ever. At the last Sessions of the Central Criminal Court the grand jury made it the subject of a special presentment to the Judges, and dwelt upon the reckless manner in which vans, waggons, and cabs were often driven, to the common danger of foot passengers. The hum of approbation which the reading of the document elicited from the people in court showed how generally the evil is understood and felt. Again, on last Lord Mayor's Day, when the present chief magistrate of the City was presented to the Barons of the Court of Exchequer, the Lord Chief Baron made this a prominent topic in his address to the civic authorities from the bench, and mentioned the remarkable fact, on authority, that in the course of a single year, taking one year with another, the accidents which result in death and injury and loss of power and utility in the streets of London alone exceed those on all the railways in England put together. With bridges and subways at dangerous crossings, and with the manifold regulations prescribed under penalties by the bill under consideration for driving in the public streets, especially that prohibiting driving by young persons, the City authorities may in time rid themselves of the reproach implied in the statement of Chief Baron Pollock, and the lives of the citizens be guarded from the danger to which they are now exposed from the cause in question.

THE GRAND MARSHAL OF THE COURT AT BERLIN has given notice to the police that, on the occasion of the state dinner given at the Court in honour of Princess Alexandrine's marriage, some ill-advised persons stole several pieces of plate, and in particular two silver dishes, ten large spoons, and five forks of the same metal, with a dozen spoons and forks in plated ware, without doubt supposed to be silver.

THE FRENCH BUDGET.

M. FOULD, the French Minister of Finance, a few days ago presented a report to the Emperor on the finances of the country, in which he takes up the state of the finances from 1864, reviewing the estimates with the actual expenditure, and commenting on the principal occurrences which have frustrated his expectations. In 1864 the sugar duties, being subject to so many alterations from the drawbacks, produced less than was anticipated. The indirect taxes also showed a deficiency, and some Crown lands remained unsold. In 1865 a considerable loss was experienced from the low price obtained for the Mexican scrip sold. In execution of the Treaty of Miramar the Mexican Government forwarded to the French Treasury, in part discharge of its debt of 270,000,000fr., scrip for an amount of 5,400,000fr., representing a capital of 54,000,000fr.; 40,000,000fr. of which had been assigned to the Budget of 1864, and 13,000,000fr. to that of 1865. These securities were negotiated, and they produced a loss to the treasury of 2,542,000fr.; and in 1866 it was expected that the revenue would so exceed the expenditure as to permit the application of a large sum to the execution of a large sum to the execution of public works already begun. But the chief interest of the report rests in the Budget for 1867, the leading features of which are—a complete reform in the Sinking Fund, and a reduction in the expenditure, especially in the army and navy. The Sinking Fund in France, as constituted in 1833, consists, first, of a dotation of forty millions; secondly, of one per cent on the nominal capital of the loans contracted since that period; and, thirdly, of some surplus funds. In 1864 the sinking fund amounted to 184,000,000fr., and in 1865 the same would have reached 192,000,000fr., had not the Corps Legislatif, on the proposition of the Government, inaugurated a new policy last Session by cancelling 64,000,000fr. of rentes, which reduced it to 127,000,000fr. But this assumed annual increase was a complete illusion, since the finances of the country did not leave any surplus to be thus appropriated. The same law which ordered the payment of the sum to the purposes of the sinking fund ordered it also

to be taken from that fund, and appropriated to the passing wants of the State. M. Fould, however, has determined to put an end to such a useless machinery of accountancy. If there be a *bona fide* surplus to pay off any part of the debt, well; if not, what is the use of swelling the accounts on both sides? The problem is, first of all, so to balance the revenue and expenditure that there shall be no need to use any portion of the sinking fund; secondly, to prepare the way for a real surplus, which shall constitute the basis of a true sinking fund, in order to diminish the capital of the debt. It is satisfactory to know that the work in hand is not a theory, but a fact, and that M. Fould, acting under the wise inspiration of the Emperor, has obtained the co-operation of nearly all the Ministers of State in introducing economy and retrenchment in the expenditure. Fourteen millions in the Ministry of War, seven millions in the Ministry of Marine, one million eight hundred thousand in the Ministry of Commerce and Public Works, six millions in the Ministry of Finance, and a considerable saving too in the extraordinary budget—these are good earnest of more comprehensive diminutions from year to year. But it is not only on the side of the expenditure that an improvement is noticeable: the revenue exhibits a considerable increase. The commercial activity of the last few years, so largely promoted by the treaty of commerce concluded with this country, has developed the resources of France to an extent beyond precedent; consequently, the customs show a sensible increase, and all taxes become more productive. France may be congratulated on the successful issue of her policy. She now evidently understands the real way of promoting prosperity and contentment. Slowly and cautiously she has entered into the path of freedom from monopoly and commercial restrictions; but the success which has followed her first measures will animate her to advance still more resolutely and rapidly on the same track; and who can tell what increase of resource and activity she may yet experience? There are still a few legacies of her former "ideal" of glory, the burden of which she must bear; but she is relinquishing these one by one, and she seems determined to seek a higher glory than that accruing from military prowess, by placing herself at the head of Europe in all that constitutes real and substantial progress.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE KING OF THE BELGIANS. REMOVAL OF THE BODY FROM LAEKEN TO BRUSSELS.

THE removal of the body of his Majesty from Laeken to Brussels took place on the night of the 12th, the ceremony lasting from nine to eleven o'clock. There was an immense crowd assembled on the occasion. The departure from the palace of Laeken was preceded by a most touching ceremony. The body of the King was deposited in the coffin, which was draped with black, and then placed on an estrade in one of the saloons of the palace. Behind was a table, on which was a crucifix and two lights. The rest of the saloon was lighted by lamps. At the head of the coffin stood M. Becker, Chaplain to his Majesty, and at the left were the Princes in mourning, both holding the grand cordon of the Order of Leopold. At the entrance of the saloon a few persons were assembled, in whose presence M. Becker repeated a funeral prayer, which their Royal Highnesses could not hear without great emotion. The funeral prayer being finished, twelve sub-officers of the regiment of Grenadiers were introduced and ranged themselves round the coffin, which they afterwards took up, followed by the Princes, and bore to the hearse, which was waiting at the bottom of the steps. As soon as the body was placed within it, the Duke of Brabant and the Count of Flanders re-entered the palace.

Notwithstanding the freezing temperature and the late hour of night, nearly all the population were on foot. The crowd extended from the Castle of Laeken to the Palace of Brussels. The regiment of the guides, in full uniform and on horseback, likewise the squadron of the civic guards on horseback, and the grenadiers of the garrison of Laeken, were ranged at the entrance of the Royal residence to render the honours and to form the escort. The pelotons of gendarmerie, on horseback, were stationed to lead and close the march of the cortège. On the Place des Palais at Brussels the service of honour was made at the entrance of the palace of the King by the chasseurs *éclairés* of the civic guard, and of the troops élite. All the place was cleared for the arrival of the cortège. Every minute a gun was fired, alternately by the artillery of the citizen militia and that of the army in front of the palace and in the park. Innumerable mourning flags and draperies ornamented the front of the hotels and all the houses along the course of the funeral cortège. The gendarmerie on horseback, the squadron of the civic guard of Brussels, and a squadron of guides, preceded the court carriages in deep mourning livery, and the hearse bearing the mortal remains of the illustrious deceased.

The route was but feebly lighted with torches, which were born by the civic guard on horseback, who were followed directly by the piqueurs, who immediately preceded the carriages of the Royal family and the valets of the household of the King. The hearse, one of great simplicity, resembled a large chest sealed with four seals of the arms of the King and of Belgium. It was drawn by six horses, harnessed in deep black, and conducted on foot by the grooms in the grand mourning livery. The horsemen and the piqueurs wore over their red livery a large black ribbon across their breast. Behind the hearse followed the carriages of the high functionaries, &c. The procession ended with the rest of the regiment of guides and the gendarmerie. A religious silence reigned along the course of the procession. The general aspect was doleful and striking. The procession, on leaving the Palace of Laeken and after having descended the Montagne du Tonnerre, went by the ancient Chancellerie, then turned to take the new Avenue de la Reine, up to Porte de Laeken, and then direct to the Rue des Palais.

audible sound. From morn till night the vast crowd was always pouring in through the great hall and up the staircase, and so on from saloon to saloon to the White Drawing-room, where the body lay. The aspect of this superb apartment was most mournfully impressive, its lofty windows being closed by crape hangings, on which were fixed the escutcheons of the illustrious dead, blazoned in the funeral colours which make these hatchments seem so peculiarly ghastly. These, in the half gloom of the lower end of the apartment, were almost invisible; but at the upper, in the glare of light which surrounded the Royal bier, they started out from the black hangings with sharp distinctness. According to the custom generally in use on the Continent, the body was fully exposed to view. A huge canopy of black velvet, embroidered with silver, depended from the ceiling, and under this, on a heap of velvet palls surrounding the coffin, the remains of the late King were laid. The body had been embalmed, and this process, perhaps, had given to the features a fuller expression than they used to wear in life; but beyond this the countenance was little changed save in its intense

pallor—a pallor that was made more striking by the contrast with the dark accessories around. The late King was attired in his full uniform as General, enveloped over all by the magnificent mantle of a Knight of the Garter, and on the breast were placed the great cross of Leopold, the badge and collar of the Golden Fleece, the star of the Order of the Bath, the cross of St. George of Russia, the iron cross of Prussia, the cross of the Order of Maria Theresa, the cross of the Tower and Sword of Portugal, the cross of Ernestine of Saxony, the cross of Wirtemberg, and the Alexander medal. The insignia of these illustrious orders completely covered the left breast of the late King, though, numerous as they were, they formed but a mere tithe of the orders which were conferred by every Power in Europe on King Leopold. The public admitted merely passed in a dense stream round the foot of the bier, on each side of which stood six veteran officers with drawn swords, who were relieved every two hours, and who during their time of solemn duty were as motionless as the remains over which they watched.

THE FUNERAL.

On Saturday, the 16th, the funeral of the late King took place, with almost more than the Royal pomp which usually characterises these mournful ceremonies, and, what is not so usual, amid the most profound expressions of regret and sympathy on the part of his late subjects. The city wore all the aspects of woe, emblems of mourning being everywhere exhibited. When the gloomy dawn broke amid the ceaseless boom of muffled bells from every spire in the city, there was scarcely a house of consequence which was not dressed with pall-like draperies of ghastly black and white. Even the very lamps were muffled over with crape, and the necessity which this occasioned of leaving the lights burning with a sickly yellow gloom made the whole line of road from the Place Royale to Porte Laeken look like an avenue to a vault. Seen through the dim winter morning, it would be difficult to conceive anything more mournful in this aspect than these thoroughfares. It seemed at the first glance not so much that a King was to be buried, but as if all his subjects were dead too. Closed windows, closed shutters, black flags, and black drapery met the eye on every side, while the very air was filled

with indications of sorrow, as the echo of the minute guns and tolling of the muffled bells came with dull reverberation from every quarter. The great centre of the indications of gloom and mourning was, of course, the Brussels Palace itself. It was draped with black cloth almost throughout its entire front. Around its main entrance the black was dimly spangled with small golden lions, and each porch was ornamented with a temporary gilt archway similarly draped and gilded. Along the whole length of the balustrade in front of the windows, urns were placed filled with incense, which as it burnt curled up in wreaths of smoke before the palace. Under the main portico gilded tripods were placed laden with the same kind of incense, till the very air in front of the palace was made heavy and unbearable. All this was done before daylight, and almost with daylight the first ranks of spectators took their places. Early as they were, however, the great masses of troops which kept the square and had to take part in the procession, were there before, and had inclosed with double rows of infantry the space allotted to the arrangement of the cortège.

In the centre of the square were squadrons of guides and hussars, with companies of the Royal Regiment of gardes, representative detachments from the garde civique, both cavalry and infantry, all with their colours shrouded in heavy crape. Mixed in the groups of officers who commanded there were to be seen the white uniforms of Austria, the grey and blue dress of the Russians, the bright



LEOPOLD II., THE NEW KING OF THE BELGIANS.

At nearly eleven o'clock the body was deposited in the *salon jaune* of the palace, amidst the noise of the funeral salvos of the cannon; and the crowd that came to witness the translation of the much-beloved monarch whom they had lost dispersed themselves in silence, and always with the signs of the most profound regret.

THE LYING IN STATE.

At ten on the morning of the 13th the public were admitted to view the body of the late King lying in state at the palace in the capital. The crowd was so great that a detachment of regulars and of the civic guard on duty were unable to keep back the masses desiring admission, and reinforcements had to be brought up to prevent accidents. All the front of the palace, as high as the balcony, was draped with black cloth, but it had been found impossible to complete any other portion as high as the roof except the left wing. The public were admitted by the door in this part of the building. The grand staircase leading to the funeral chamber was entirely covered with black cloth, bordered with gold, and at the foot were a large number of lackeys in court livery, with crape bandages upon the arm. Escutcheons bearing his late Majesty's arms, with the words "Obit 10 Xbre, 1865," were affixed at stated distances along the wall. A sub-officer of the army, with drawn sabre, stood upon each stair.

The stream of people was dense and incessant, but moved so quietly that there was not only no confusion but scarcely even an

scarlet of the English Army, the deep blue of Prussia, and officers from Wirtemberg, Saxony, Portugal, and Bavaria.

The officials invited to take part in the ceremonies at the palace began to arrive soon after nine o'clock. As they alighted at the chief entrance they were escorted up the staircases, all hung with black, except upon the landings, where the crape gloom was broken by small hatchments, which even made the general effect of the interior of the palace, if possible, more funereal than ever. On the previous night the body had been laid in its coffin. There were four of these, and all of great size. The first was a very massive one, of lead; the second and third of oak, 3 in. thick, and lined with lead; the fourth and last a massive case of ebony, of great weight and thickness, but unadorned, except by a black plate with the simple inscription—

S. M. LEOPOLD IER.,
GEORGE CHRETIEN FREDERIC,
ROI DES BELGES.

Only the immediate members of the late King's family were present when the body was inclosed, and the coffin at last restored to its place under the gorgeous-looking canopy.

Before ten the officials had begun to assemble in the saloons, and the few servants, their splendid liveries only partly hid by long crape scarves, were superseded by equerries, grooms of the chambers, and high officials, who marshalled all to the chambers in which they were to wait till everything was ready. The Ministry, the Ambassadors, and the Senate occupied the three saloons leading from the new King's private apartments to the White Drawing-room, in which the coffin lay. Beyond this the members of the various tribunals of law and commerce and of the Chambers were assembled, all in official costume or evening dress. The wearers of the latter, however, were few and far between; for even the small minority that did not appear in uniform had their black coats covered with orders. As the crowd of uniforms, legal, municipal, and diplomatic, gradually filled the chief saloons, the ice of the long silence was at last thawed, and when the thaw did set in it went on very rapidly. At first it was only a whisper that was ventured on—then talking; then very general talking, until an air of suppressed vivacity and universal good spirits seemed to pervade the company. Suddenly this was checked by the entrance of two equerries, who requested all to rise and arrange themselves on each side of the saloons, as the King was approaching. A total silence followed this announcement, and all the officials took their places and remained waiting now very silently. Three times the great doors at the end of the saloon were thrown open, but only to give ingress to some high officers of State, and slowly, but surely, the half-smothered talk grew up again, subsiding as instantly as before, when the doors were opened time after time, but still no King appearing. Almost at the last moment, at ten minutes before eleven, the great entrance of the chamber was thrown open, and, preceded by his chamberlains and officers of the household, the King came slowly in. His appearance denoted more than mere anxiety or mere fatigue. On his left walked the King of Portugal in a superb uniform, but which, like the uniforms of all the other illustrious relatives, was covered deeply with the usual signs of military mourning. Behind the King came his brother, the Comte de Flandres, and the Comte de Hainault. The Prince of Wales followed, with the Prince of Prussia. After them came the Archduke Joseph of Austria, Prince Louis of Hesse, Prince Arthur, the Grand Duke of Baden, Prince Nicholas of Nassau, Prince Augustus of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, Prince George of Saxe, the Prince of Wirtemberg, the Prince Presumptive of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen, the Duke of Cambridge, Prince de Joinville, the Duke d'Aumale, and the Duke de Nemours. Next followed the Envoys Extraordinary of various foreign States, and to these succeeded the diplomatic representatives of the various foreign Courts, the Presidents of the Senate and of the Chamber of Representatives, the Royal Ministers, and the members of the Cabinet, who followed as the Royal mourners moved to the White Room. Then all the doors leading to it were thrown open, and the chief mourners passed at once to the head of the room. On the left of the coffin stood the King of Portugal, with the Counts of Flanders and Hainault and the Prince of Prussia. On the right the King, with the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge, and Prince Arthur; while the various representatives of foreign Courts stood grouped round the foot of the bier. As soon as the subdued noise caused by the influx of the great tide of officials had subsided, the Rev. M. Becker, one of the Protestant Chaplains of the King, commenced the service for the dead. It was very rapidly uttered, and of course in French. When that part of the ritual was arrived at where the body is lowered to the grave the prayers ceased, and the rev. gentleman proceeded to

deliver the funeral oration, which now forms almost a necessary part of all important Continental funerals.

Not only before the funeral sermon had begun, but before the service commenced, or even before the Royal mourners had entered the White Drawing-room, the first detachment of the long funeral procession had left the palace, and was almost half a mile away. It would be a mere needless iteration to recapitulate the programme of this great ceremony, and point out how every department—civil, military, judicial, and ecclesiastical—had their representatives in the cortege. As the last of these various state officers had filed away the funeral oration ceased, and left time to marshal the Ambassadors and special Ministers of foreign Courts in their due order of precedence. This was done in the ante-room, and in a few minutes the chamber where the body lay was deserted by all save the chief mourners. Not until all had left did they quit their positions at the side of the coffin; nor, indeed, then, until the detachments of non-commissioned officers, selected from different regiments of the Belgian army, appeared to carry the

rather the funeral car, had left the palace, and, as it did so, the great bells of St. Gudule were rung "backwards," and their confused peals boomed out in a strange tangle of sound.

Following the funeral car came the Royal carriages. The first contained Leopold II., the King of Portugal, and the Count of Flanders. The second, his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the Prince Royal of Prussia, Archduke Joseph of Austria, and the Prince of Wirtemberg. In the third, was the Prince of Saxony, the Grand Duke William of Baden, Prince Louis of Hesse, and his Royal Highness Prince Arthur. The fourth Royal carriage contained the Prince Auguste of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, the Duke de Nemours, the Prince de Joinville, and the Duke d'Aumale. In the fifth and last of the carriages allotted to royalty were the Prince Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen and the Duke of Cambridge.

Before the carriages had left the palace the great bulk of the procession was well on its way to Laeken, leaving a long train of Ambassadorial, Ministerial, and official carriages still to follow. The cortege was more than a mile in length. The whole course

of the procession was densely lined with spectators, most of whom wore insignia of mourning.

Just within the Royal domain stands the very old but not the less poor-looking church of Laeken. It can only, however, be regarded as a temporary Royal chapel, for close beside it is rising a handsome structure. At the end of the Avenue de la Reine stands the new church of Laeken, roughly blocked out in outline, and imperfect both outside and inside. Passing to the left of this, the funeral cortege approached the old church, in which the late Queen is buried, and where the vault had been prepared for the remains of King Leopold. In order to obviate any question which might be raised by the Catholic clergy as to the performance of a Protestant service in an edifice consecrated according to their rites, a temporary chapel had been prepared. The chief dignitaries of the Roman Church, however, held a meeting, at which it was agreed to waive any objection of this nature, but, as the temporary chapel had been prepared, it was used for the concluding service, and there the chief mourners and the rest of the company assembled before the coffin was carried to the vault. The Rev. Mr. Vent, one of the most distinguished ministers of the Reformed Church of Belgium, read the prayers, and a chant specially composed for the occasion was sung with much feeling by the Lyric Society of Brussels.

The procession was then re-formed and passed through the church to the side where the vault was opened, and the coffin was deposited therein amid the hushed and solemn silence of the spectators. In future the grave will be approached by a gateway opening from the cemetery, so as to give access without rendering it necessary to enter the church.

LEOPOLD II., KING OF THE BELGIANS.

THE new King of the Belgians, Leopold Louis Philippe Marie Victor, was born on the 9th of April, 1835, and is consequently in the thirty-first year of his age. When little more than eighteen years old he married Marie Henriette Anna, Archduchess of Austria, and daughter of the late Archduke Joseph, Palatine of Hungary. The young Prince held for several years the rank of Major-General, and had the honorary command of a regiment of grenadiers. In the year 1855 he and his Duchess travelled for several months in different countries of Europe, and finally extended their wander-

ing by a trip to Egypt and Asia Minor. He became, on attaining his majority, a member of the Senate, in whose discussions he has frequently taken an active and intelligent share; and rarely has there been an important debate in which he has not participated when within reach of Brussels. The energy with which he pleaded in favour of the establishment of a steam navigation service between Antwerp and the Levant is always remembered with gratitude by the commercial bodies of the country. On all occasions he has spoken as the advocate of liberal and enlightened measures tending to increase the prosperity and happiness of the people. When, some ten years since, he visited Paris, at the time the International Exhibition was open, some factious spirits chose for party purposes to get up against the young Prince a cry of "reaction and French influence;" but there was no foundation for the alarm, which was directed rather against the Ministry than the Royal family, and the nation refused to heed the political calumnies of a few reckless demagogues. The attempt to render the King unpopular had this beneficial result, however: it brought out the real sentiments of the nation, and showed how strong was its affection for their Constitutional Sovereign, and how deep a confidence they had in his integrity and wisdom. The present King has three children—Louise Marie Amélie, born February, 1858; Leopold Ferdinand Elie Victor Albert Marie, Count of Hainault, born June, 1859; and Stephanie Clotilde Louise Hermine Marie Charlotte, born May, 1864.



LEOPOLD I., THE LATE KING OF THE BELGIANS.

late King away. Then the mourners left the chamber as the word was given by the chamberlain, and the ponderous coffin was with difficulty moved a few steps by fifteen powerful men. Its weight was so great that nearly half an hour was occupied in getting it down the stairs to the grand entrance. As the coffin was being slowly carried down from stair to stair the state funeral car, escorted by a detachment of cavalry and drawn by eight black horses, drew up in front of the palace. It was a very large and very lofty catafalque. The lower part was hid with velvet fringed with gold. Above was a kind of second story, on which were emblazoned the shields of the nine great provinces of Belgium. Over all was the conventional tomb with the Royal mantle draped with crape and the crown and sceptre laid upon it. At each of the four corners of the car were tripods filled with incense. These, however, burnt so quickly, and sent forth such flames, that, when the hearse reached the palace, some fear was excited lest they should ignite the draperies, and the attendants who followed with baskets of charcoal to keep the urns burning were dispensed with. In the basement of the Royal car the coffin was laid, and superb wreaths of golden immortelles on velvet concealed it from public view. Close following the car were the household officers and private domestics of the late King, and after them the state charger of the illustrious deceased was led, covered with crape housings. No music was played, no drums beaten, nor trumpets blown; only the sound of the minute guns proclaimed when the procession, or

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KEY TO PROVERBS AND CHARADES IN OUR LAST NUMBER.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. One swallow does not make a summer. | 10. Never is a long day. |
| 2. Sadducees. | 11. Lapidary. |
| 3. Attendance. | 12. Penny wise—pound foolish. |
| 4. Time flies. | 13. Inventory. |
| 5. The last straw breaks the camel's back. | 14. A friend in (k)need is a friend in deed. |
| 6. Stipendiary. | 15. Never cut an old friend. |
| 7. Beersheba. | 16. Archbishopric. |
| 8. Pennsylvania. | 17. A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance. |
| 9. Look before you leap. | 18. Incubus. |



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1865.

REGULATION OF STREET TRAFFIC.

WE have more than once animadverted in these columns on the confusion in which the traffic in the streets of London is involved, and the consequent dangers to life and limb thereby occasioned. We hail, therefore, with much satisfaction the effort about to be made by the City authorities to endeavour to infuse some degree of method into the chaos of disorder which at present reigns in the streets. About the fact of that disorder and its fruits there can be no dispute. Every one who has occasion to traverse the public thoroughfares must have painful and daily experiences on the subject. At certain points in the great centres of traffic you must either stand still, or risk your safety in order to proceed on your way. And that many persons do run this risk is proved by the fact that during the present year no fewer than 221 persons have been killed in the streets of the metropolis. The bill proposed to be introduced by the City in the approaching Session of Parliament, if passed into law, and vigorously enforced, will go some way towards mitigating the evils complained of; but its enactments must be thoroughly carried out. There are no limits to the numbers of persons who, either from ignorance or obstinacy, or both, will continue to contravene the plainest regulations, unless these are rigidly enforced and their violation promptly and severely punished. The City authorities appear to be alive to this, and have resolved to increase their police force by fifty men, in order to afford agents for attending to this particular branch of duty. This number is, perhaps, inadequate to the requirements of the case; but it is a step in the right direction. The provisions of the bill themselves, it is more than probable, will still leave much to be effected. We believe the Chief Commissioner of the City Police is right when he says that the widening of the streets is the only effectual remedy for the obstructions and dangers from which we now suffer. But the widening of existing thoroughfares and the opening up of new ones is a work requiring time; and something must, and by this bill may, be accomplished in the mean time. The great difficulty, to our mind, in effectually curing the evil at present, lies in the division of authority which obtains in different portions of the metropolis. The City is perhaps the worst portion of the whole capital. Its streets are generally the most narrow, while the traffic upon them is greatest. But other districts suffer inconvenience also; and the misfortune is, that the regulations about to be adopted by the City authorities will be inoperative beyond the limits of their immediate jurisdiction. Everything may be in "apple-pie order" east of Temple-bar, and everything in the direst confusion west of it. What is wanted is one general authority, and one set of regulations, over the whole metropolis. And this, we fear, will never be attained so long as we have divided jurisdictions—so long as the City retains the "ancient privileges" of which it is so tenacious, and so long as the other divisions of the metropolis retain their local powers of self-misgovernment. A great measure of reform in the government of London is one of the things which are assuredly looming in the future; and members of the Corporation, vestries, and boards must make up their minds to submit to it.

STREET NOMENCLATURE.

DISTINCTIVE appellations are necessary for the identification of streets as well as of men and other things. But this is a fact which is largely ignored in the naming of thoroughfares in English towns. We act upon no system in this most important matter. We have in London hundreds of streets of the same name, and the like is true of other places, though not perhaps to an equal extent. King-streets, Queen-streets, Prince-streets, Ann-streets, Mary-streets, Margaret-streets, George-streets, James-streets, John-streets, William-streets, Henry-streets, and so on, meet us at every turn. The inconvenience of this state of things is obvious. How is a stranger to find any person, or a letter to be sure of reaching its proper destination, when there may be perhaps half a dozen streets, places, terraces, &c., of the same designation as that wanted, within a mile or half a mile of each other? And the mischief still goes on increasing, in spite of what is done in renaming streets by the Metropolitan Board of Works. Builders and

others go on at their own sweet wills, giving to streets names already appropriated, and are thus continually making confusion worse confounded. Where is this system to end? If it continues, the streets of London will by-and-by become an unexplorable wilderness of repetitions, through which it will be next to impossible for a stranger to thread his way.

A daily contemporary, the *Pall Mall Gazette*, has recently published a sensible correspondence on this subject. The letters of "Philander," who opened the correspondence, contain some valuable suggestions, which might be developed still further with great advantage. The metropolis, for instance, might be divided into districts, something after the manner of the existing postal districts, each division to receive a general designation, derived from some one of the great fields of labour in which men engage; all the streets in that quarter to have names homogeneous with its general title, but no name in any case to be duplicated. Thus we might have a district associated with Art, named after some great master, such as Raphael, Michael Angelo, or, if it is desired to be specially national, after Reynolds, Gainsborough, &c.; all the leading thoroughfares in that district to be christened after lesser but still prominent artists, and the minor streets taking designations from important pictures or less important painters. Then we might have a Literary quarter, to bear the general name of Shakspeare, as the greatest of English authors; the principal thoroughfares to be called after his plays or his leading characters—as Macbeth-road, Hamlet-square, Falstaff-avenue, &c.—with the names of minor authors attached to less important streets. Next we might have a Philosophic quarter, associated with the name of Bacon, and named in reference to other philosophers, and philosophical facts and ideas. A Naval quarter might be named after Nelson, and subnamed after distinguished naval heroes, discoverers, &c., supplemented by the names of famous ships, battles, and so on. A Military district might bear the general name of Wellington or Marlborough, and be designated in its subdivisions by names derived from military men and military events. The same might be done as regards a Scientific quarter, a Commercial quarter, and so on *ad infinitum*; always taking care, however, never to repeat names, and to have only one name and one set of numbers from end to end of each thoroughfare. We should thus not only simplify the nomenclature of our streets, but furnish a lasting record of the names and deeds of our great men and perpetuate the memory of great achievements. Each street would be a monument, each road as good as a statue; and each square better than a mausoleum. Nor need there be any difficulty as to finding a sufficient variety of names. Let the parties to whom the task of dividing and naming the streets may be assigned take a biographical dictionary, a geographical dictionary, and a dictionary of dates, and they will find names of men, places, and events enough for all the streets of a hundred cities as large as London. Besides, the stock is always increasing; for new men are becoming prominent, new places are being discovered, and important events are occurring, daily. The only real difficulty is in changing designations already established; but this would in time cure itself, and, at the worst, would not be so bad as the confusion under which we at present labour.

CHRISTMAS EVE.—The Engraving which appeared on the front page of our last week's Number, and bearing the above title, is the work, not of Mr. J. T. Lucas, but of Mr. William Lucas. The picture from which our Engraving is taken was in the Exhibition of the Water Colour Society; and was ascribed, in mistake, to the one of the two talented brothers Lucas instead of the other. We gladly make this correction, and at the same time take the opportunity of expressing our high admiration of the simple yet happy and effective manner in which Mr. William Lucas has treated the subject in the original picture.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE GARTER vacant by the death of Lord Palmerston will be conferred on Earl Cowley; and Earl Granville succeeds the late premier as Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports.

MR. RUSSELL GURNEY, M.P., Q.C., Recorder of London, has been appointed to serve with Sir Henry Storks on the Commission of Inquiry in Jamaica.

SIR HUGH CAIRNS is suffering from such indifferently health as, under medical advice, to render a winter sojourn in the south of France—it is understood to be Cannes—desirable.

THE WIDOW OF GENERAL STONEWALL JACKSON is said to be sinking under bad health and in abject poverty in the interior of Virginia.

MR. FRED. CLIFFORD, barrister, of the Inner Temple, has been sent out to Jamaica as the Times commissioner.

M. LEOTARD, who is, it seems, a bachelor of law, is about to resume his law studies, with the view of entering at the Bar.

THE KING OF BOKHARA has proposed to the Ameer of Cabul a treaty of alliance between Bokhara and Afghanistan, to resist the encroachments of the Russians and English.

THE NOTORIOUS F. W. WINDHAM enlisted in the Inniskilling Dragoons the other day, but afterwards paid "smart money."

A GREAT REVOLT OF THE CIRCASSIAN EMIGRANTS has taken place at Moush. Many lives were lost.

SIR CHARLES EASTLAKE, president of the Royal Academy, died a few days ago at Pisa, where he had been suffering from illness for a considerable time past.

VESEVIVUS was powdered over with snow on the 16th inst., and the mountains all round the bay were thickly covered—a remarkable phenomenon, and promising a severe winter.

A YOUNG LADY advertises in an American paper for a class of young mothers and nurses, whom she may instruct in the art of talking to infants so as to interest and please them.

HER MAJESTY has been pleased to advance Sir Roderick Murchison to the dignity of a Baronet, "in recognition of distinguished merit and attainments." A baronetcy has also been conferred upon Professor William Ferguson, the eminent surgeon of King's College.

A SEVERE DROUGHT has destroyed the rice crops in Bengal; the sugarcane and potato crops were dying, and the presidency was threatened with a severe famine.

LORD ST. GERMAN has resigned the office of Lord Steward of the Household, and will be succeeded by Lord Beaconsfield, who has been for many years Master of the Buckhounds.

A SCHOOL was recently opened near Zanesville, Ohio, U.S., where burglary, pocket-picking, tricks in gambling, counterfeiting, &c., were actually taught. Quite a class of young boys had been organised when the existence of the "institution" was at once discovered and terminated.

THE Roman Eccelement, in an article on the different Christmas dishes in vogue in various countries, states that Englishmen delight in turkey, mince "pacs," and "plum keaks."

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY had announced that Spain and Chili will not be permitted to bring prizes into Federal ports.

ELI SYKES, who is under sentence of death, in Leeds Gaol, for the murder of his sweetheart and her mother, threw himself from a balcony to the ground, a height of 20 ft., on Sunday morning, and sustained severe injuries. His object, of course, was to commit suicide.

THE YOUNG DUKE OF NEWCASTLE is building extensive stabling at Clumber, Nottinghamshire, with the intention of breeding blood stock on a somewhat extensive scale; and has appointed Mr. John Scott, the well-known trainer, as stud groom.

THE ENGLISH SOVEREIGN is current in India under its own name, owing to the strange coincidence that *sobaran*, the original meaning of which is "fine colour," also signifies gold; and as the conversion of a *h* into a *r* is very frequent the Indians have adopted the English word with the greatest ease.

A LETTER was found a few days ago in one of the post-office boxes in Vienna, addressed to "The Infant Jesus in Heaven, to be given to St. Peter." It contained the prayer of a child to have a great number of presents at Christmas.

SMUGGLING on the Canadian and United States frontier is carried on to a great extent. Several ingenious devices have been practised to deceive the custom-house officials, one plan, recently detected, being to fill a coffin with expensive silks, and pretend that a body is being conveyed for interment in the States.

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT has given notice of its intention to discontinue, after June next, the treaty for the extradition of criminals concluded in 1843 between the Governments of Great Britain and France.

THE POPE has delivered a Christmas speech. His Holiness is full of faith, and speaks with as much confidence as if he had lost nothing during the last few years and the future contained no serious elements of danger.

ARRANGEMENTS are in progress for the erection of a memorial to the poet Cowper at Great Borkhamstead, Hertfordshire, his native town. The poet's father was some years Rector of the parish, a living which is in the gift of the Duchy of Cornwall.

SAMUEL READ, an old man eighty-four years of age, walked, on Christmas Day, from the village of Carlton to Gedling Church, Nottingham, a distance of a mile; and while in the act of taking the sacrament fell back and immediately expired. Deceased was hale and hearty up to that day, but had been heard to say that he should die on Christmas Day.

ALL THE GOVERNMENTS FORMING THE ZOLLVEREIN, with the exception of Hanover, have given in their adhesion to the treaty of commerce with Italy. Bavaria having asked for some explanations of the provisions of the treaty, the signature will be delayed a short time longer.

A SERIOUS COLLISION took place, on Wednesday, on the line of the Great Western Railway, near Gloucester, between a luggage-train and a passenger-train. It appears that the shock of the collision was very great, the passengers were thrown from their seats, and upwards of thirty persons were more or less injured. Three of the worst cases are expected to prove fatal.

THE ARKLOW LIFE-BOAT of the National Life-boat Institution was the means of rescuing thirty-four persons from the rigging of the ship *Tenasserim*, of Liverpool, which was wrecked on the outlying sandbank near Arklow on the morning of Christmas Day.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

SIR CHARLES BARRY intended to inclose New Palace-yard, and he left in the western side of the clock tower a dead arch, at which thousands of passers-by have looked, wondering what this might mean. A stately row of buildings in the same style as the palace, with a magnificent gateway, was to jut into the arch, and, running along Bridge-street, meet another row which was to face Canning's statue, thus inclosing New Palace-yard. But the Government has determined not to carry out this plan, and the dead arch in the clock-tower is to be removed, and the space is to be filled up with stonework, after the pattern of the rest of the tower. A hoarding has just been put up, and soon the workmen will commence taking down the arch. There is also, I understand, to be made a vaulted passage—under the Victoria Tower, or by the side of it, I know not which—leading to a railway station and steam-boat pier on the Thames Embankment. Fronting Bridge-street there is to be a plantation of trees. I cannot help thinking that it is a pity that Barry's plan is not to be carried out. It is unfair to the architect not to complete his design, and the palace will have always an unfinished appearance. Two considerations, however, deterred the Government: first, the cost, which no doubt would have been great, and the House of Commons has come to be wearied of voting money for the completion of this structure; secondly, the windows of several of the houses tenanted by officers of the House of Commons look into New Palace-yard, and they are all dead against the inclosure. Nobody though, I think, denies that Sir Charles's design would have added greatly to the completeness and beauty of the palace. The law courts, of course, will come down when the new courts to be erected near Lincoln's Inn shall be completed. By the removal of these buildings, the north side of Westminster Hall will be exposed to view. But what will be done with it? Will it be decorated to harmonise with Sir Charles's florid style, or left with its huge buttresses quite unornamented? Buttresses there must be: indeed, I should think the old buttresses still remain concealed by the law courts. There were originally side windows. Perhaps these will be opened again. The former windows are modern. They were put into the roof to light up the gorgeous spectacle of George IV.'s coronation banquet; when Champion Dymoke, in full armour, pranced into the hall upon his charger, and threw down his gage of battle challenging all enemies to disprove the right of his master to the English throne; and when poor Queen Caroline presented herself at the door, was refused admittance, and then went home and pined away, and in less than a month passed silently to the place "where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest." How well I remember that coronation-day! I was living in a country town then, and this is how the event was celebrated there:—The populace led a jackass with a crown on his head through the streets to the harsh tune of a tin-kettle band. Such was the veneration for their Sovereign which the people felt in those days. How different is the feeling towards Majesty now! And yet the political and ecclesiastical prophets of that time from rostrum and pulpit foretold that if more power were given to the people, which has been given, the veneration for the Throne would be less; nay, they confidently predicted, as confidently as Dr. Cumming foresees the end of the world at hand, that Throne and Church would be overturned if a certain measure should pass, which has passed and has been law for five and thirty years.

I dare to say that many of your readers would like to know the name of the "old Puritan poet" whose lines Mr. Bright quoted in the peroration of his late speech at Birmingham—

There is on earth a yet angustier thing,
Veiled though it be, than Parliament and King,

Well, I can satisfy them. The author of these lines is George Withers. He was born in 1588, died in 1667, and was buried in the Savoy Church. In the last century he was not much thought of—very few of the poets of his day were. Pope, in the "Dunciad," thus contemptuously alludes to him—

Safe, where no critics damn, no duns molest;
Where wretched Withers, Ward, and Gildon rest.

But he did not deserve the contempt, and during this century he has had ample justice done to his poetic genius—his quick, teeming invention, and his truthfulness and simplicity—by such men as Hazlett, Campbell, Coleridge, &c.; and, if I mistake not, selections from his poetic works have lately been reprinted in handsome style. He wrote much, and much that he wrote has deservedly passed into oblivion; but in his poems, buried in rugged verse and commonplace sentiments, there are to be found many gems of purest ray serene, like that which Mr. Bright dug out. Perhaps you will let me give you the complete passage, from which Mr. Bright selected only two lines:—

Let not your King and Parliament in one,
Much less apart, mistake themselves for that
Which is most worthy to be thought upon;
Nor think they are essentially the State.
But let them know there is a deeper life,
Which they but represent—
That there's on earth a yet angustier thing,
Veiled though it be, than Parliament and King.

This is the passage, and surely very suitable it is to these times, when political Sadduceism has again lifted up its head amongst us preach-

ing that statesmen should have nothing to do with conscience, and that Palmerston was the man for his time because "he had no principles and no policy." A worldly old trade-man once said that it was a pity that lying was a sin, it was so useful in business; but modern Sadduceism makes lying no sin. Happily, though, modern Sadduceism is confined to a very small clique. "The angustier thing," I believe, is still recognised and venerated by the mass of Englishmen—at least one would fain hope that it is; for, woe to England if this leprosy of Sadduceism should spread over the land!

Earl Russell has, I am told, liberated himself from the tyrannous custom of shaving. How characteristic this is of the noble Earl! He is a true friend of reform, liberty, and progress, but no rash innovator. When Muntz, of Birmingham, twenty years ago, discarded the razor, and appeared in the House with that long flowing beard of his, Earl Russell no more thought of letting his beard grow than he now thinks of bringing in a bill to grant universal suffrage. Public opinion was not then ripe for such a change. A Prime Minister with a beard would have been deemed a monster. Gradually, however, the custom of wearing beards has grown; and now that they have become sufficiently common, his Lordship discards the razor. I have no doubt, though, that he often used to look at Muntz's beard, and think that possibly the time might come when he, too, should leave off shaving; for the noble Lord's two eyes are in his head—as every wise man's are, according to a certain old Hebrew writer—and he can look ahead as well as most folks; but he will not act till the time is ripe for action—will not advance till he knows that he will be supported. Fighting forlorn hopes is no part of his policy. Rumour says that he now means to propose a £6 franchise; but imagine not that he dreams that this will be final. Finality he has long since given up; and no doubt, if he were to live long enough, as he has followed at last Muntz's example in the matter of the beard, he would in due time adopt to the full the late Radical member for Birmingham's political opinions. The difference between these two is this—Radical Mr. Muntz was ahead of the time, Whig Earl Russell is content to keep abreast of it. There is great significance in Earl Russell's beard, if we have eyes to see it.

We need, I think, be under no apprehension as to the physical degeneration of Englishmen, notwithstanding our sedentary mode of life in London and elsewhere. London, Liverpool, Birmingham, and other large towns have excellently-conducted gymnasiums, where exercises calculated to develop and strengthen the muscular system can be engaged in. The drillings, marchings, exercises, and rifle-practice of the volunteers are well fitted to give power of limb, and keenness of vision, and steadiness of hand to our youth. And now we have just had opened in London an institution which is as useful as any of the others I have mentioned. This is Mr. Goodman's skating-hall, in the Arches, Villiers-street, Strand, in which the invigorating amusement of skating can be practised "all the year round." The hall is in one of the large arches beneath the Charing-cross railway station, and has been fitted up and decorated in an exceedingly perfect and elegant manner. The hall is 200 ft. long by 36 ft. wide, and is capable of accommodating about 2000 persons. It was opened for the first time on Saturday last, when I paid it a visit, and found a goodly company of young men assembled and engaged in displaying their skill on the mimic ice. The hall is under the management of Mr. E. Elliott, one of the most accomplished skaters I ever saw. He dances, turns, leaps, cuts figures, and, in fact, seems to be able to do anything he pleases on the skates. I have seen good skaters in my time, but none equal to Mr. Elliott. A gymnasium is about to be added in another of the arches, where there will also be billiard-rooms and bowling-alleys; and I should fancy that a more convenient or useful institution for physical education than that of Mr. Goodman, or one more complete in all its appointments, does not exist in the metropolis. I hope it will prove a thorough success.

A statue of Andrew Marvel, the pure politician, the caustic satirist, and the poet (I fear his writings are little known nowadays), is about to be placed in the new Townhall of Hull—the borough which he more than once represented, and also the place of his birth. The statue—a marble one—is presented to the municipal corporation by Mr. Councillor Winslip, and the execution of the work is intrusted to Mr. William Day Keyworth, junior, of London. By-the-way, it is a curious fact that Marvel, whose chief fame is due to his integrity as a politician, should have been the last English M.P. who received wages from his constituents. In erecting a monument to his memory, the inhabitants of Hull are only carrying out an intention which was formed at the time of his death, in 1678. A sum of money was voted by the council for the purpose, but the Court, which Marvel had so severely satirised, interfered and put a stop to the plan.

I hear that Dr. or Mr., Hunter, who figured rather prominently and not very agreeably before the law courts the other day, has commenced an action for libel against the *Pall Mall Gazette*.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

In these days everybody who occasionally stops to look in at shop windows where photographic likenesses are sold can enjoy, if he only finds them out, those wonderful portrait-grotesques of Charles Bennett's in *Punch*. But it may be necessary to tell some people that they may be found for the looking. Exquisitely good are the little likenesses of Mill, Browning, Tennyson, and Colenso—the latter checking, with an eye of keen suspicion, the simple addition sum of $1865 + 1 = 1866$.

Blackwood is not before me, nor by some accident, the *Cornhill*, which was advertised for the 22nd; so I must deal with the others.

In *Macmillan* the Honourable Mrs. Norton begins her new story, "Old Sir Douglas," and begins it well. Those who remember this lady's "Stuart of Dunleath" know what she can do; and they will not, I think, be disappointed. I have read with great pleasure the articles "Nature and Prayer," by the Rev. J. Llewelyn Davies; the Rev. Harry Jones on "Some of the Ways and Wants of Working Men," and Lord Hobart on "Parliamentary Reform." The modern journalist will find plenty to think about in the paper by Professor J. E. Thorold Rogers, "On the Social and Local Distribution of Wealth in England during the First Half of the Fourteenth Century." It is a long title, but the article itself is very much the reverse of tedious. Mr. Blackmore's "Craddock Nowell" contains plentiful indications of a vivid intelligence and a noble spirit. The article by "T. A.," "Recent Novel-writing," strikes me as being a little wrong-headed in parts, though the novels criticised are quite bad enough. Here is a sentence: "It is probable that the trading and manufacturing classes are indefinitely cleverer than the agricultural classes are now, or were," &c. Well, yes, it is probable; but what on earth is the value of this proposition? What is "indefinitely cleverer?" On the whole, however, the article is a good one.

London Society begins a series of papers on London Streets by Mr. Mark Lemon, which promises to be entertaining; and there is in the present number a short sketch, "Fairies in Fustian," by Mr. Andrew Halliday, which is very well done indeed—not over done, you understand.

The *Churchman's Family Magazine* is, as usual, good. But apropos of what is said of the late F. W. Robertson, I have a word or two to say. "It does not occur to him for a moment to inquire whether, when he finds himself opposed to his brother clergy, and his lay listeners, and men of all shades of opinion (?) in the Church, the fault may not in reality be with himself, and not with the overwhelming majority opposed to him." So writes the intelligent critic about one of Mr. Robertson's little "spurts" of melancholy defiance. Upon this a remark or two. First—To have an opinion at all, means to believe that you yourself are right; and, if others are opposed to you, how can you help believing they are wrong? You should always be ready to receive light that is offered; but to hold an opinion, and doubt it, too, at one and the same time, is simply impossible. Second—Why should any man suspect himself because he is apparently in a minority? Every majority was once a minority. Third—It is evident, on the

surface, that the opposition of the majority had its natural and proper effect (in degree) on Robertson, in saddening him, and making him suspicious of his own feelings and motives of action. Fourth—The precise thing the want of which made Robertson almost bitter at times was, that absolute kindness of candour which seems, as it were, next to poetic power, the rarest of things on earth. He did not care for criticism, or opposition, taken simply; what disturbed him was opposition in a spirit which, translated, meant—"If we could we would compel you to conform. In the mean time, we shall give you the cold shoulder."

The second number of *The Argosy* is, I think, better than the first. Mr. Charles Reade's story, "Griffith Gaunt," increases in interest, and leaves off in the most artful manner. The smoke of a pistol comes flying over Kate Peyton's head; but who is the dead man—Griffith or Neville? We must wait to know. Meanwhile, there are some new names in this number. Mrs. Oliphant tells a very agreeable short story, "The Hidden Treasure," and the treasure is a young lady whom a loving mother tries to hide away from all chance of matrimony. "New-Year's Day at Windsor, 1327," is by Mr. Henry Kingsley, and is a very characteristic story-sketch. "Wintering at Eretat" will open up a new world to most people. Where is Eretat, and what sort of place is it? William Allingham's poem, "Civitas Dei," and another—of which we are left to guess the author—"The Earl o' Quarterdeck," ought to surprise readers who know how next to impossible it is to find in magazine literature anything that can be called poetry. "Hero, a Metamorphosis," by Christina G. Rossetti, is not happy; it is a stiff bit of pre-Raphaelite affectation, with, of course, *glints* of poetry and insight, or else it would not be Miss Rossetti's. There are two illustrations, and the leaves are cut.

The *Cornhill* has this moment reached me; and I will, at least, call attention to the beautiful words by the Editor which follow the close of Mrs. Gaskell's story.

THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

At one time of the year, and only at one, do theatricals form a prominent subject of conversation and discussion among English men, women, and children, and that time is Christmas, when the merits of the burlesques and pantomimes become questions of interest, and our daily and weekly newspapers are full of them. Though Easter and Whitsuntide are holidays, they are scarcely welcomed as theatrical events. Without burlesque and pantomime what were Christmas? Like a cake without plums, a gun without powder, or an evening party without flirtation. At some of our theatres, however, the ordinary attractions have this Christmas been considered sufficient. At the PRINCESS'S there is no pantomime. At the OLYMPIC the production of the new burlesque has been postponed; and at the STRAND Mr. F. C. Burnand's version of "L'Africaine" still occupies the foremost position in the programme. At the LYCEUM a romantic and spectacular drama founded on Sir Walter Scott's exquisite work, "The Bride of Lammermoor," has been produced with great splendour; and at the ADELPHI Mr. Toole has appeared in a new farce, called "Behind Time;" but, as in this world there is a limit to everything, so in this Journal there is a limit to the space allotted to its "Theatrical Lounger," who therefore elects to speak of the new Lyceum drama and of the new Adelphi farce in some future impression, in order to devote this column to burlesque and pantomime, and nothing but burlesque and pantomime.

At DRURY LANE the pantomime bears the title of "Little King Pippin; or, Harlequin Fortunatus and the Magic Purse and Wishing-Cap." It is from the pen of Mr. E. L. Blanchard, which is a most fortunate circumstance for the pantomime, for the public, and for the management; for, if ever author was endowed with a manifold genius for the welding together of several fairy tales; for a deep sympathy with the minds and hearts of children; for a love of folk-lore, magic, and a power of constructing a spectacle that is at one and the same time interesting and instructive, gorgeous and amusing, Mr. Blanchard is that man. To praise Mr. William Beverley would be as ridiculous as to gild tinfoil, to redder fire, or to scatter pretty faces and graceful forms over one of his own transformation scenes; and the ingenious gentleman known in the playbills as Dykwynkyn, and to his personal friends and admirers as Mr. Richard Wynn Keene, is equally above compliment. Suffice it, then, that Mr. Blanchard has written, Mr. Beverley has painted, and Mr. Dykwynkyn has modelled; that the scenic effects, costumes, masks, and accessories are surprisingly beautiful and characteristic, even for these days of dramatic decoration; that the ballet scene and the transformation scene are wonderful specimens of pictorial and mechanical skill; and that the singing of Mr. Henri Drayton and Miss Augusta Thompson, the acting of Mr. George Belmont and of Miss Rose Leclercq, leave nothing to be desired; and as for Master Percy Roselle, he is the very cleverest young Roscius seen by this generation. When to this is added that the two Columbines are Mmes. Boleno and Miss Morgan, and the Harlequins Messrs. Cormack and Saville; that the Clowns are Messrs. Boleno and Lauri, and the Pantaloons Messrs. Barnes and Morris, it need not be written that the Drury Lane pantomime of 1865 and 1866 is destined to a long run and to as much theatrical immortality as is consistent with the fast forgetfulness of this nineteenth century.

At COVENT GARDEN the well-worn, ever-fresh story of Aladdin has been chosen as the theme of one of the most gorgeously-mounted pantomimes ever done injustice to by an attempt at written description. Of this pantomime Mr. E. L. Blanchard is also the author; indeed, the managers of large theatres would be chargeable with incaution and impudence did they employ any less powerful pen. As the story of "Aladdin" was old when the year 1765 was new, it would be waste of time and space to tell it here; but it must be said that, magnificent as was the Covent Garden pantomime of last year, it is surpassed by its successor. The Flying Palace is, in the language of the showman, "well worth the money alone for to see;" and the transformation scene—the work of Messrs. Grieve the artists, and Mr. Sloman the mechanist—is a perfect triumph. Nor must the ballet be forgotten, or the clever Payne family—nor Mlle. Esta, nor the veteran Paul Herring. "Aladdin" will be the "town talk" of this present Christmas season, as "Cinderella" was of the past one.

At the HAYMARKET, the return of Mr. Sothorn to the scene of his triumphs was hailed with repeated acclamations. No sooner had "Brother Sam" stepped upon the stage than the audience thundered out welcomes with a will that reminded the lovers of true poetry of Mr. Martin Tupper's "six miles of shouting." The novelty of the evening was "Orpheus in the Haymarket," an adaptation, by the famous Mr. Planché, of Offenbach's celebrated "Orfée aux Enfers." A review of this work is rather the province of the musical critic than the Theatrical Lounger, who must content himself by recording its success.

At the ST. JAMES'S a sort of parody on a pantomime, called "Please to Remember the Grotto," was produced. It is not a new piece, but a modern version of an extravaganza by Tom Dibdin, which was entitled "Harlequin Hoax," and was brought out at the old English Opera House in the month of August in the year 1814. In this pleasant little piece, Miss Herbert, the directress of the St. James's Theatre, appears as "Miss Herbert, the directress of the St. James's Theatre," which, as readers need not be told, is a very charming impersonation. The members of the light troupe of the St. James's, who appear as themselves, and are singularly well fitted for the parts, are highly indignant at having to descend to the performance of pantomime; but ultimately all is arranged, and Mr. Frank Matthews appears as Clown, Mr. Robson as Pantaloon, Mr. Charles as Harlequin, and Miss Coleman as Columbine. It must not be forgotten that Mr. Robson appears in the course of the extravaganza as an "oyster," nor that Mr. Musgrave has arranged and composed some very excellent and effective music for the limited means of the professional amateur pantomimists.

At the PRINCE OF WALES'S THEATRE Mr. H. J. Byron has achieved another success. This year his prolific pen has parodied the immortal

opera of "Don Giovanni." Little Don Giovanni is played by Miss Marie Wilton, Leporello by Mr. John Clarke, Donna Anna by Miss Hughes, Masetto by Miss Fanny Josephs, Zerlina by Mrs. Hare, and Elvira by Miss Larkin. Surely this is good news for Christmas theatre-goers. The extravaganza bristles with fun, pun, and parody. Notice to the admirers of the performances at the Prince of Wales's:—The hour of commencement is altered. The curtain now rises on the comedy of "Society" at seven, instead of, as heretofore, at thirty minutes after that hour.

The NEW SURREY THEATRE has risen like three phoenixes from the ashes of one! On the site of the old Surrey Theatre—where the memories of T. P. Cooke and Douglas Jerrold are as the associations of H.M.S. Victory with Horatio Nelson, and the fertile plains near Brussels with the Iron Duke—a new and magnificent edifice has been erected, which was inaugurated on Boxing Night by a densely-packed audience, by an opening speech from the manager (Mr. Shepherd), and by the successful production of as brilliant a pantomime as ever gladdened the eyes of her Majesty's lieges on that side of the water. "King Chess; or, Tom, the Piper's Son, and See-Saw Margery Daw," will be one of the sights of the metropolis for many nights to come. Architectural details are for the architect, not for the Lounger, who can only find room to say that the New Surrey is one of the best arranged and most beautiful theatres in the world!

At SADLER'S WELLS the pantomime is entitled "Cock-a-Doodle-Do; or, Harlequin Prince Chanticleer and the Princess of the Golden Valley." The opening, which is the work of Mr. Charles Millward, is that happy though incongruous compound of pretty faces, hideous masks, sprightly dialogue, and popular parody, which belongs equally to modern burlesque as to the old pantomimic opening. The author may be congratulated upon the success of his effort, as also may the artists upon the *verve* and *spirit* with which they spoke their complements, sang, and danced; but the shortcomings of the scenic and mechanical departments will have to be amended before either author or actors receive entire justice.

At the NEW ROYALTY a new and original extravaganza has been produced. It is entitled, "Prometheus; or, the Man on the Rock," and is from the pen of Mr. Reece, the author of the libretto of "Castle Grim." The piece is well acted, handsomely mounted, and entirely successful.

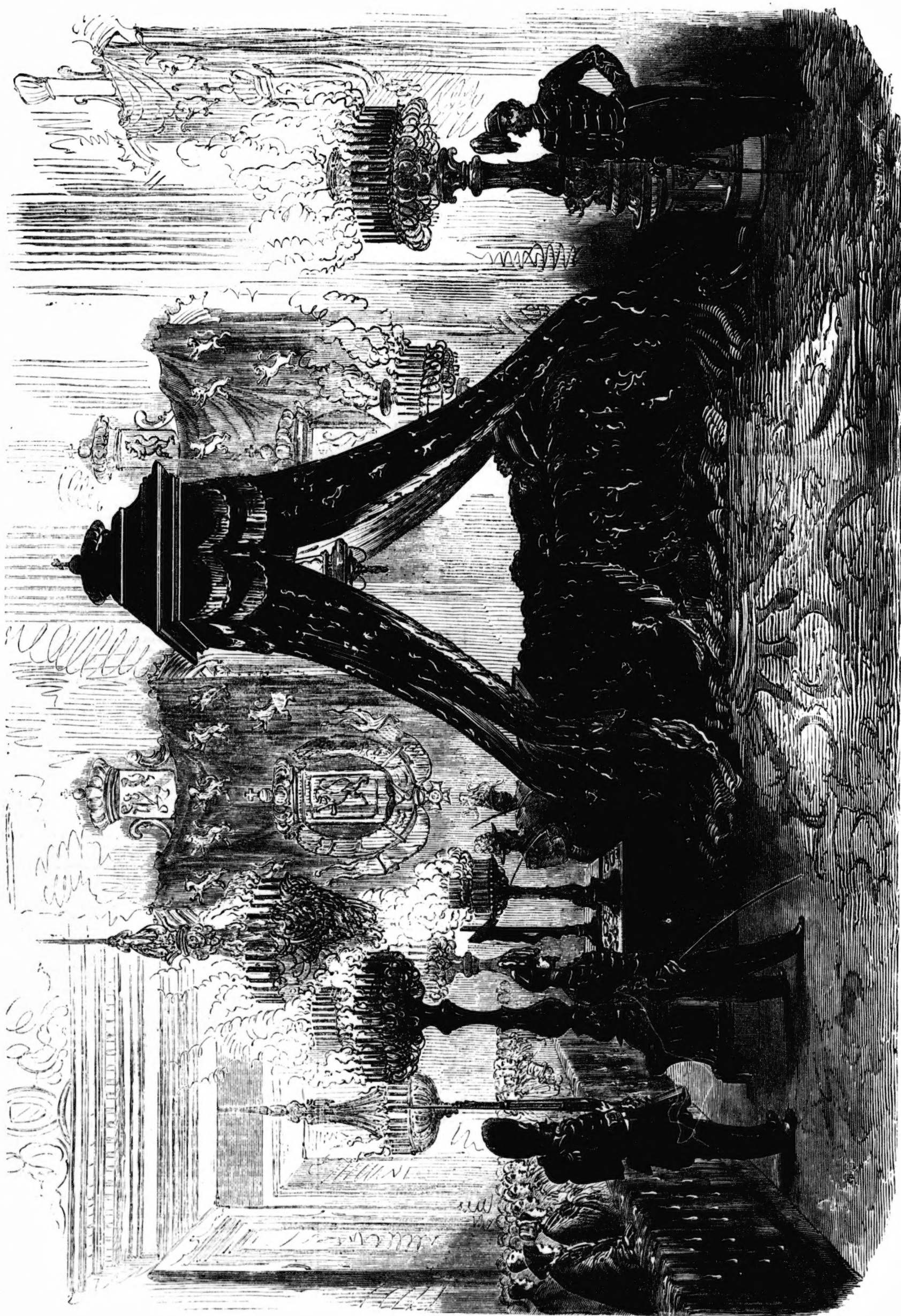
At ASTLEY'S the title of the pantomime is—or, rather, its titles are, as many as those of a Spanish Prince. It is called "Harlequin Tom, Tom, the Piper's Son, Pope Joan, and Little Bo-Peep; or, Old Daddy Longlegs and the Pig that Went to Market and the Pig that Stayed at Home." It is admirably put upon the stage, and was received with enthusiasm. Let us hope its run will be as long as its titles are numerous. More cannot be expected.

POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—At this popular institution, where the *utile* and the *dulce*, useful instruction and rational amusement, are so happily blended, a more than ordinarily varied and interesting series of entertainments have been provided. In the department specially devoted to amusement there is given an adaptation of one of Grimm's fairy stories, entitled "The Dragon and His Grandmother," which partakes somewhat of the nature of a pantomime, several astonishing ghost effects being introduced with great success. The course of the story, which is told by Mr. J. L. King, is relieved by some very fine kaleidoscopic displays, by means of the magic lantern. There is also a fine set of new dissolving views, illustrative of Defoe's ever-interesting story of "Robinson Crusoe." These views have been painted on glass, after Doré's drawings, and are of a really superior character. Mr. F. Clifton tells the story, which he intersperses with vocal illustrations. Herr Maju displays feats of natural magic and legerdemain; and Mr. G. W. Jester, "the man with many voices," goes through a round of ventriloquial and other efforts. In the department of instruction Professor Pepper delivers lectures on the recent discoveries of Sir David Brewster in connection with polarised light, and on gun-cotton. In the course of the first of these lectures, which is entitled "Half-hours with Sir David Brewster," Mr. Pepper introduces some very singular optical delusions. One of these—"The Modern Delphic Oracle," the invention of Mr. T. W. Tobin—represents a human head (supposed to be that of Socrates), which is suspended in the middle of the stage, without body or any visible means of support, and which yet moves its lips and eyes, and even delivers a poetical speech, the composition of Mr. John Oxenford. This illusion is, of course, of the same nature as Colonel Stodare's Sphinx, with this difference, that the "Oracle" is even more extraordinary than the Sphinx, from having no visible connection with terra firma whatever, and being extremely mobile in feature and fluent of tongue. In the lecture on gun-cotton Professor Pepper not only explains the process of manufacturing that important article, but exhibits numerous specimens of the new drawing-room fireworks. There is also exhibited a wonderful fairy casket, involving another beautiful optical delusion; and, altogether, the entertainments at the Polytechnic are excellent and fully deserve a visit.

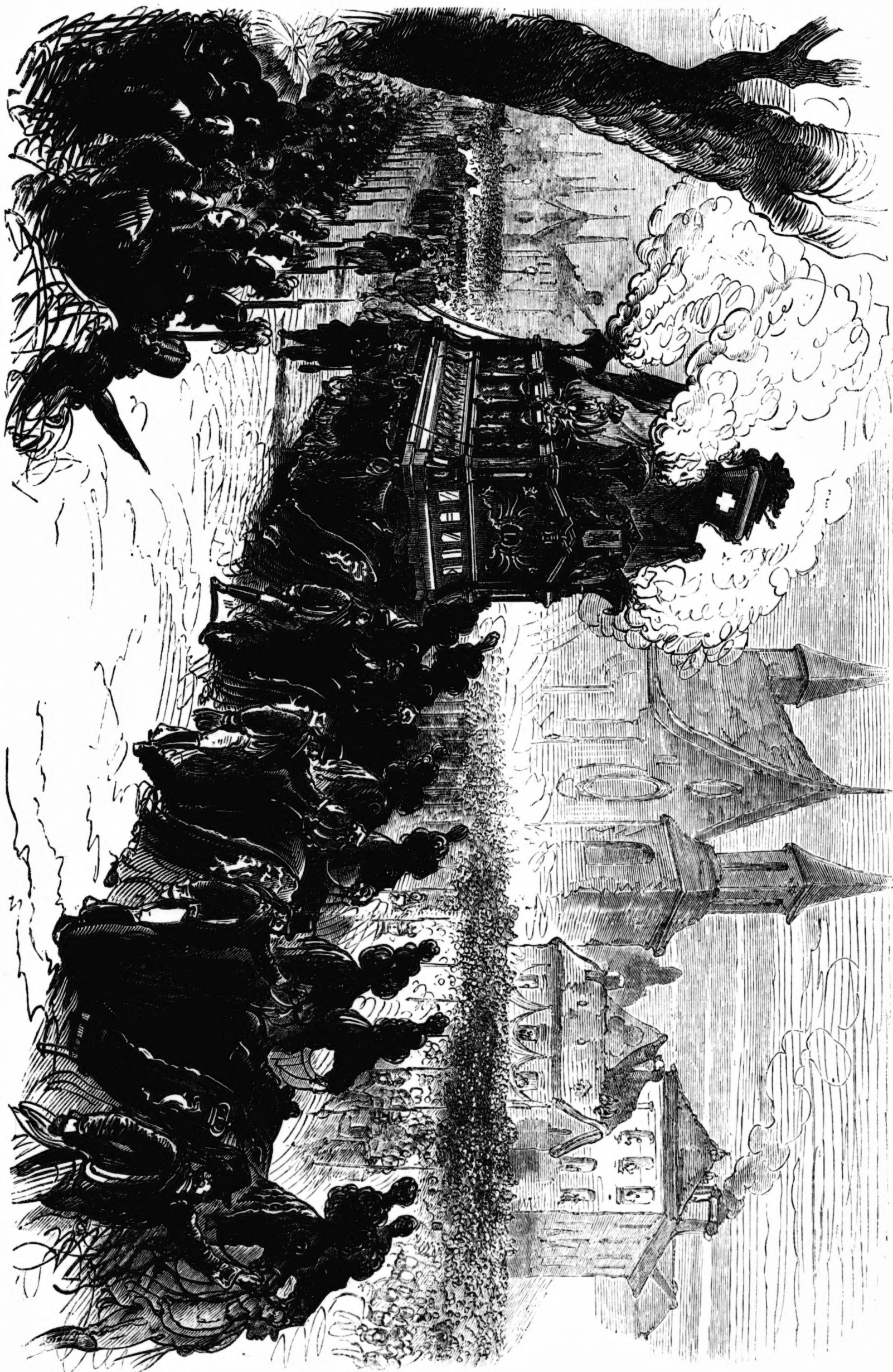
CRYSTAL PALACE.—At the Crystal Palace there is a most varied round of entertainments provided. There is, of course, a pantomime for the juvenile visitors, which is highly appreciated. Then there is Signor Ethardo, who creates a singularly intense sensation. With his feet upon a ball, and with his feet alone, he rolls his ball up a spiral incline to 60 ft. above the heads of his auditors, and then rolls it down again in the same manner. Mr. Stead, "the Cure," illustrates perpetual motion by never remaining still a moment. Chang the giant and Chow the dwarf are burlesqued—the giant being made-up of two men. Signor Bevani and his "wooden-headed family" go through a very wooden-headed but withal amusing performance. Herr Preskow, the Danish gymnast, accomplishes the feats usual with his brethren in a masterly manner. The programme closes with the pantomime, in which an Irish jig, a Scotch reel, a sailor's hornpipe, and other dances are introduced. All this is in addition to the ordinary attractions of the palace, which is, therefore, very attractive indeed.

THE ALHAMBRA.—Mr. F. Strange, having no longer the fear of the managers of the regular theatres before his eyes, has produced two new ballets, both elaborately and tastefully got up, with what he calls "novel and patented effects," the scenic accessories being the work of Mr. William Calcott and his brother, Mr. Albert Calcott. The one ballet is called "A New Grand Dioramic Development Scene and Butterfly Ballet, entitled the Descent of King Dragon Fly and his cortege of Golden Moths into the Clematis Bowers of Arcadia." There! surely that is a full-sounding enough title even for Christmas. The other ballet is an international one, and is entitled "Un Ballo in Maschera in the Illuminated Alcoves of Cleophas." Both these ballets are carefully put upon the stage, and are very fine in their way. The performances also include singing, dancing, the feats of a clever contortionist, &c.; and it may be safely said that no one has seen all the good Christmas entertainments until the Alhambra has been visited—that is, if admission can be obtained, which from the crowded state of the house is no easy matter. The persecution of Mr. Strange by the managers seems to have made his establishment more popular than ever.

CURIOUS CEREMONY IN ST. GEORGE'S-IN-THE-EAST.—A ceremony, which is now of some antiquity, took place on Tuesday in the parish of St. George's-in-the-East, so well known a few years since for its fierce ecclesiastical riots. Mr. Raines, a parishioner, established a free school in the parish, and directed that the day after Christmas in every year there should be a drawing amongst the young unmarried women educated there for a marriage portion of £100. It is essential under the will of the donor that the candidates shall be unmarried women, have attained the age of twenty-two years, and be members of the Episcopal Church of England, and that they shall be able to procure certificates from the several masters or mistresses with whom they have lived since they left the school of their general conduct during their servitude. There are at present several prosperous tradesmen in the parish who owe their first start in life to marrying one of the fortunate drawers of the £100 prize. The marriage, in most cases, takes place within a very short period of the drawing in the parish church of St. George, which is invariably crowded by the poorer classes of the inhabitants.



THE BODY OF THE LATE KING LEOPOLD LYING IN STATE IN THE ROYAL PALACE AT BRUSSELS.—SEE PAGE 412.



FUNERAL OF THE LATE KING OF THE BELGIANS: THE PROCESSION FROM BRUSSELS TO THE CHAPEL AT LAEREN.—SEE PAGE 412.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

THE following is the Report of the Capital Punishment Commission as finally agreed to. We believe it has received the assent of all the commissioners. Several of them have, however, signed a supplementary paragraph stating their belief that capital punishments might now be safely abolished:—

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

We, your Majesty's commissioners appointed "to inquire into the provision and operation of the laws now in force in the United Kingdom, under and by virtue of which the punishment of death may be inflicted upon persons convicted of certain crimes, and also into the manner in which capital sentences are carried into execution, and to certify to your Majesty under our hands and seals, or under the hands and seals of any five or more of us, our several proceedings in the premises, and at the same time to report to your Majesty our opinion whether any and what alteration is desirable in such laws or any of them, or in the manner in which such sentences are carried into execution," humbly report as follows:—

1. We have been occupied a considerable time in taking evidence upon the questions referred to us.

Many witnesses have been examined, and a careful summary of their evidence precedes this report.

In addition to this oral testimony, certain questions have been addressed to, and answers received from, nearly all the nations of Europe, and some of the States of the United States of America, with regard to the laws relating to the punishment of death existing in those countries respectively.

The opinions of all her Majesty's Judges in England, Ireland, and Scotland, as well as of other eminent criminal lawyers, have been requested upon the expediency of making any alteration in the laws under which the punishment of death may now be inflicted upon persons convicted of certain crimes.

In answer to this request some of the Judges have sent in statements of their views, while others have attended before the commission and verbally stated their opinions. The whole of the evidence, both oral and documentary, will be found in the Appendix.

2. The commissioners forbear to enter into the abstract question of the expediency of abolishing or maintaining capital punishment, on which subject differences of opinion exist among them, but they are all of opinion that certain alterations ought to be made in the existing law.

3. The only crimes now practically punishable with death in the United Kingdom are treason and murder; we say practically, because in Scotland there remain many other offences which are still in point of law liable to be so punished, though in fact such a case never occurs. We strongly recommend that this anomaly be no longer allowed to exist, and that all such obsolete laws be repealed.

A list of these offences will be found in the Appendix.

4. We have then, first, to consider whether, assuming capital punishment to be retained, we should recommend any change in its present application to the crime of treason, and upon this point we have come to the conclusion that no alteration is required. The statute of 11 and 12 Vic., c. 12, commonly called the "Treason Felony Act," without in any way abrogating the ancient law upon that subject, has introduced a new and more merciful law, which, in all but cases of extreme gravity, will probably supersede the former. The maximum punishment under this Act is penal servitude for life, which seems sufficiently severe in cases of constructive treason unaccompanied by overt acts of rebellion, assassination, or other violence. With respect to treason of the latter character, we are of opinion that the extreme penalty must remain.

5. We now arrive at the consideration of the crime of murder and its punishment, and, in treating this difficult question, we think it convenient briefly to refer, in the first instance, to the existing state of the law.

6. By the law, murder is the unlawfully killing another with malice aforethought; and this definition appears to us to be correct in principle.

Unfortunately, these words have not been confined to express malice aforethought, or, as it is sometimes called, malice in fact, but have received a less natural construction, which has long been adopted as the settled law of the land. It has been held that malice in its legal sense imports nothing more than a wicked intention to do injury to the person of another without any just cause or excuse, and that where a man is killed in consequence of any such wicked intention the law will infer malice aforethought, though no express enmity or preconceived design can be shown; not, indeed, a particular, but a general, malice aforethought, arising from the extreme depravity of disposition shown by the act. This doctrine of implied malice aforethought goes even beyond this, and is carried to such an extent that the law always infers it when a person in the act of committing a felony, even of a trifling nature, kills another, though there may be, in fact, no premeditation and no intention to kill or do serious injury.

When homicide is committed in the perpetration of crimes of great enormity, such as those enumerated in clause 12, this inference may be not improperly drawn.

7. The extreme severity of this construction has been somewhat mitigated by the law of manslaughter, which is defined to be the unlawful killing of another without malice express or implied. In order to reduce the crime from murder to manslaughter, the law allows evidence of provocation to be given to rebut the inference of malice, which would otherwise be drawn from the act of killing. Here, however, again certain arbitrary rules have been introduced into the law, which most materially restrict its beneficial operation. It has been established by the decisions of our Courts that no provocation by words, looks, or gestures, however contemptuous and insulting, nor by any trespass merely against lands or goods, is sufficient to free the party killing from the guilt of murder, if he kills with a deadly weapon, or in any manner showing an intention to kill or do grievous bodily harm. In these cases, though the suddenness of the provocation may rebut in point of fact the express malice aforethought, it is not allowed on account of its supposed insignificance to overcome the general malice aforethought, which is implied by the law, from the wickedness and cruelty of the deed. Without entering into the many nice and subtle distinctions which prevail upon this subject, it is enough to say that the practical result of this state of things is most unsatisfactory. A man who, in a sudden fit of passion, aroused by insult to himself or his wife, kills the person who offers the insult is, by law, guilty of the same crime, and liable to the same punishment, as the assassin who has long meditated and brooded over his crime. A great majority of the witnesses whom we have examined have expressed a strong opinion that this branch of our criminal law requires revision and amendment—at least, so far as the punishment is concerned; and we have unanimously arrived at the same conclusion.

8. We proceed, therefore, to offer such recommendations as we think expedient for altering the present law of murder. It appears to us that there are two modes in which the change may be effected.

9. The first plan is to abrogate altogether the existing law of murder and to substitute a new definition of that crime; confining it to felonious homicides of great enormity, and leaving all those which are of a less heinous description in the category of manslaughter.

10. The other plan is one which has been extensively acted upon in the United States of America, where the common law of England is in force; this leaves the definition of murder and the distinction between that crime and manslaughter untouched, but divides the crime of murder into two classes or degrees, solely with the view of confining the punishment of death to the first or higher degree.

11. We have given both these plans our serious consideration, and we are of opinion that the required change may be best effected by the latter, which involves no disturbance of the present distinction between murder and manslaughter, which does not make it necessary to remodel the statutes relating to attempt to murder, and does not interfere with the operation of those treaties with foreign Powers which provide for the extradition of fugitives accused of that crime. The object proposed can be attained by a short and simple enactment, providing that no murders shall be punished with death except such as are particularly therein mentioned.

These should be called murders of the first degree; all other murders should be called murders of the second degree, and punished as hereinafter recommended.

12. We recommend, therefore:—

(1.) That the punishment of death be retained for all murders deliberately committed with express malice aforethought, such malice to be found as a fact by the jury.

(2.) That the punishment of death be also retained for all murders committed in, or with a view to, the perpetration, or escape after the perpetration, or attempt at perpetration, of any of the following felonies:—Murder, arson, rape, burglary, robbery, or piracy.

(3.) That in all other cases of murder the punishments be penal servitude for life, or for any period not less than seven years, at the discretion of the Court.

13. Our attention has been called to the frequent failures of justice in cases of infanticide.

The crime of infanticide, as distinguished from murder in general, is not known to the English law. The moment a child is born alive it is as much under the protection of the law as an adult.

14. We have considered whether the failure of justice, which undoubtedly often occurs in such cases, may not be obviated by some change in the law which shall add to the protection of new-born children. The principal obstacle which now prevents the due enforcement of the law is the extreme difficulty of giving positive proof that the child alleged to have been murdered was completely born alive.

15. We have given this important and difficult subject our serious attention, and we have arrived at the opinion that an Act should be passed making it an offence, punishable with penal servitude, or imprisonment, at the discretion of the Court, unlawfully and maliciously to inflict grievous bodily harm or serious injury upon a child during its birth, or within seven days afterwards, in case such child has subsequently died. No proof that the child was completely born alive should be required. With respect to the offence of concealment of birth, we think that no person should be liable to be convicted of such offence upon an indictment for murder, but should be tried upon a separate indictment. The accused should not be entitled to be

acquitted in either of the above cases if it should be proved on the trial that the offence amounted to murder or manslaughter.

16. There is one point upon which the witnesses whom we have examined are almost unanimous—viz., that the power of directing sentence of death to be recorded should be restored to the Judges. We think this change desirable.

17. Upon another important point there is also a great preponderance of opinion against the present state of the law. The witnesses whom we have examined are, with very few exceptions, in favour of the abolition of the present system of public executions, and it seems impossible to resist such a weight of authority. We therefore recommend that an Act be passed putting an end to public executions, and directing that sentence of death shall be carried out within the precincts of the prison, under such regulations as may be considered necessary to prevent abuse and satisfy the public that the law has been complied with.

18. There are other questions of great importance upon which we have taken evidence—viz:—

(1.) The propriety of allowing an appeal on matters of fact to a court of law in criminal cases.

(2.) The mode in which the Crown is advised to exercise the prerogative of mercy by the Home Secretary.

(3.) The present state of the law as to the nature and degree of insanity which is held to relieve the accused from penal responsibility in criminal cases.

It is obvious that these difficult questions are not confined to capital crimes only, but pervade the whole administration of the criminal law. They therefore require a more general and comprehensive treatment than the terms of the commission under which we act will admit. We think, therefore, that while we should not be justified in making any recommendation to your Majesty on any of these points, we should fall in our duty did we not humbly solicit your Majesty's attention to them as requiring further investigation.

All which we humbly submit to your Majesty's Royal consideration.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL.

Under my casement at early dawn
Came the crush of feet in the snow on the lawn.
I saw the glimmer of coming day
In the heavens to eastward far away,
And I heard the voices upward soar,
For the joy of Christmas come once more!

THE CAROL.

This tale has oft been told—
The tale of Tidings of Peace and Love—
By men below, and by angels above,
In chorus manifold.

"Glory to God on High
And peace on earth and goodwill to men!"
So we sing it now:—so they sang it then,
Those heralds of the sky.

The Wise Men from afar
Out of the Eastern lands they came!
No column of cloud, no pillar of flame,
They followed,—but a Star!

So we—if we were wise—
Should reckon the old things past away,
The fire by night and the cloud by day:—
Our Star is in the skies!

Our Star shines bright above
To guide our feet in the vale of tears,
To cheer our weakness, to calm our fears,—
For lo! that star is Love.

Oh, soon may it befall
That hearts at Christmas may seek repose
In the loving of friends, the forgiving of foes.
Amen! God bless us all!

So ended the Carol simple and sweet—
Died in the distance the sound of feet.
But now the day was beginning to break,
Night was over, the world was awake;
The stir of life on the breeze was borne,
And twilight broadened to perfect morn.
But in my heart the whole of the day
That Carol's echo died not away.

T. H.

SALE OF LORD PALMERSTON'S EFFECTS.—Lord Palmerston's effects are to be sold by auction, at Cambridge House, on Tuesday, the 9th of January. The dining-room suite, which is of carved Spanish mahogany, consists of a noble pedestal sideboard, massive telescope dining-tables, &c. The morning-room suite is in white and gold, covered in crimson figured silk, with mahogany bookcases and chairs. In the breakfast-room there is a splendidly-executed and very massive bronze pedestal hot-air stove, by Vulliamy, made expressly for his Royal Highness the late Duke of Cambridge. In the ball-room, with which so many distinguished visitors are familiar, there are three very beautiful cut-glass chandeliers (one for sixty lights, and two for thirty-five lights each). Besides these there are an immense number of interesting objects in Sienna marble, mahoganies of different kinds, maple, &c., with the usual items of the domestic offices.

STRANGE CURE OF THE CATTLE PLAGUE.—A remarkable cure of cattle plague has been effected by Mr. John Parker, of Crow Trees, near Colne, in East Lancashire. It appears that a cow belonging to Mr. Preston, a neighbouring farmer, had got to an advanced stage in the plague, and had been ordered to be destroyed. Parker, however, begged to be permitted to try a few experiments upon the animal, and he was ultimately allowed to do so. In the first place, he took a knife and made an incision across the loins of the cow from one side to the other. He then drew the knife along each side of the ribs up to the shoulders. Then he made a deep cut in the neck, which penetrated close to the windpipe and gullet. Afterwards the wounds thus made were filled with salt and saltpetre. Next morning they were washed with salt and water, and then rubbed with vinegar which had previously been boiled. Parker next filled the wounds with "green salve," a preparation well known among farmers. Immediately after the operation the animal showed symptoms of improvement; the skin and the flesh, as far as they had been cut, mortified, and new flesh and skin rapidly re-formed. The animal is now healthy and eats well. Two other animals suffering from the plague have since been treated in a similar manner. One of them recovered, while the other became dropsical and died.

THE HOUSELESS POOR ACT.—The officials at the various workhouses have expressed in their usual Christmas report their opinion of the Houseless Poor Act. Some are dead against it, and others desire a change. The City of London guardians "have no hesitation in stating it as a mistaken idea of humanity; it is holding out a premium to the most worthless vagabonds." The St. Pancras officials think more severe legislation is required, and they recommend "rigid tests applied for confirmed vagabonds determined to live upon the public vitals." St. Luke's, Chelsea, reports great difficulty in discriminating "between really deserving poor and the lazy scoundrels who nightly apply for admission." All, however, are taken in. With respect to those who tear up their clothes in return for the hospitality afforded them, the report states:—"Flogging is undoubtedly the only remedy and cure for this scandalous behaviour." From St. James's, Westminster, we hear that as in the autumn the wards became very full the task-work was increased to "two bushels of stones for able-bodied men to break, and a quarter of a pound of coir for able-bodied women to pick." This two hours' work brought down the number of applicants, and the wards have not been filled since. From St. George's-in-the-East we hear that a greater number of houseless applied on Saturday than on any other night, as no work is exacted from them on the following morning. The officials of the hamlet of Mile-end Old Town consider the "present legislation a mistake," and think something further is required. They recommend a uniform diet and work-test, and consider the maintenance of casuals ought not to be a charge on the sewers rate. They also remark that an entirely new class of casuals has turned up. Workmen and youths now apply, and this is considered an evil. Some of them do not apply until the public-houses are closed, and they are uproarious, disturbing the other inmates. St. Giles's, Camberwell, reports that every arrangement recommended by the Poor-Law Board had been carried out there for some years past and been found to work satisfactorily. The new Act has made no change at St. Mary's, Newington; and those in office at the Hackney Union consider the effect of the Act good. St. John's, Hampstead, seems to have more houseless in the fine weather. The cold drives them into the more thickly-populated parts. The officials think the new regulations will tend to drive the vagrants to their own workhouses as inmates. Brentford Union has many calls from vagrants on the road from Coventry to London, drawn by the new regulations; and the guardians of Fulham highly approve the Act. It seems that the Act has been generally approved by the suburban guardians, whose responsibilities it has to some extent lightened; and the information thus afforded shows that if the guardians of a metropolitan union desire to relieve themselves from the care of vagrants the present law permits them to do so by reducing the fare to the minimum, and increasing the labour required of the houseless, in return, to the maximum.

Literature.

Drafts on My Memory; being, Men I have Known, Things I have Seen, Places I have Visited. By LORD WILLIAM PITT LENNOX. 2 vols. London: Chapman and Hall.

Those—and there may be many—who do not happen to be acquainted with a previous work by Lord William Lennox, called "Fifty Years' Biographical Reminiscences," and published only two years since, will do well to run through the present similar volumes, called "Drafts on My Memory." That such a task should have been accomplished, and that, in two years' time, the performer should recollect a little more, amounting to eight hundred large pages, appears strange; but observers of human nature know how people "driving" what Hood calls "the wain of life" are never more busy than in looking back upon "the years long still."

The material of these volumes may be described as Society. In every page you brush against a celebrity, and generally in his habit as he lived. You are made acquainted with his dress, his walk, his dinner, his loves, and his hates. Of the living nothing but good is said; but of the departed there is scarcely such reticence, although what is said on the other side is said with an air which gives us to understand that Society can do no wrong. Whilst the aristocracy largely figure in these pages, distinguished commoners are not forgotten. Indeed, it is a broad and varied experience, for a taste of which many people would give their ears, and be puzzled as to which passage to select. It must have been pleasant to have known Byron or to have accompanied the Duke of Wellington on his embassy to Paris. To have known Talleyrand is something, or even broken-down Louis Philippe, to say nothing of the present Emperor of the French. Also, it is good to have had strong nerves at Waterloo, and not to have been so alarmed as the Hon. Mrs. M——, who exclaimed at Brussels, "Oh! the French are at the gates, and all my claret is at the wash!" Or, perhaps, some of the few hundred distinguished hunting adventures would be preferred, or the interminable array of actors and actresses and unlimited private theatricals. Society includes so much that anybody who had the chance suggested would prove a Lord Eidon on the occasion, and take ages before making a decision. Of such material for selection is the life before us. Vigorous enjoyment, constant and pleasing variety, the best society, in all senses of the word, and backed up by a happy complacency which suffers nothing to interfere with that tranquillity, ease, and self-sufficiency without which digestion is a delusion and life nothing better than love without an object.

Whilst recognising candidly the merits and demerits of "Drafts on My Memory"—the merits of good though occasionally worn and fragile material, and the demerits of having that varied material about as wildly disarranged as the contents of a portmanteau after a Folkestone Custom-house officer has dipped a dirty arm into it—we recognise one quality in it of no mean importance. It thoroughly transports the reader into the life and scenery of half a century ago. It has been wished, and perhaps by many people, that a man might be able to do something in the Sleeping Beauty way of eccentricity, but on an extended scale; not only to accomplish the century of sleep and then wake up to finish an ordinary life, but to wake up, and, as Tennyson says, "Learn the world and sleep again," and then awake again. Very pleasant to sleep throughout the period of powder and patches, and open your eyes upon fresh complexions and ruddy lips. Or, after something like forty winks, to wake up to a world where there are no more Tories nor quack doctors; to find railways instead of coaches, electric telegraphs instead of semaphores, and— but the century's round of time reminds us that within the period hoops have come round again, and that gentlemen's ruffles have actually been suggested. A review of time shows that for change fifty years are quite as good as a hundred. Manners glide almost imperceptibly, but very rapidly, into change; and the experience of these pages is ample evidence of alteration and social improvement. Lord William Lennox of course moralises on the fact that up to the middle of the first half of the present century drunkenness was unblushingly carried on by the upper ten thousand, and noblemen and gentlemen reeled in a state of intoxication to the ladies in the drawing-room. To-day, at a window in Cockspur-street, the costumes of the ladies of the period are exposed in the pages of some forgotten magazine; and Lord William tells how he was mobbed by market-women and mistaken for an escaped lunatic from the Kensington Asylum, whilst walking home, during the small hours, in his regular ball costume. Even later, a book called "The Ball; or, a Glance at Almack's in 1829," written by a dancing-master, named Yates, relates how a gentleman was tabooed because he appeared in black trousers and boots! And the same horror-stricken writer relates fifty other *gaucheries* which have since passed into, and are likely long to remain, the best manners possible. Lord William Lennox fairly transports us into "fresh woods and pastures" old.

Citoyenne Jacqueline: A Woman's Lot in the Great French Revolution. 3 vols. London: Alexander Strahan.

Of the claims of "Citoyenne Jacqueline" as a work of enduring value we regret that we are compelled, from lack of space, to speak with a brevity that might well seem unfair. This three-volume tale is not an ordinary "novel," though it commands our sympathies at the first and holds them till the last. It is a mind of no common truthfulness, which, having submitted itself to no common discipline in the way of preparation, has produced this story. The charming reality of the scenery, within doors and without, and the minute consistency of the conceptions of character, are beyond praise. One of our contemporaries has found what it calls a "weak point" in the sudden marriage of Jacqueline to Michel, the plebeian—a marriage against all the traditions of her rank, and contracted without the concurrence of her parents. But a little attention will show that, in the desperate situation of the girl, this was not in the least degree unaccountable—her character being previously granted. It is not seldom, but many times, that women, treated with indignity in affairs of the heart, have taken desperate steps. Such things happen in France, and everywhere else, in spite of traditions, and social observances. There is not a nation under the sun, whatever may be its social regimen, which has not embodied in its legends and its poetry conceptions of outraged women breaking the conventions in much wilder ways than Jacqueline. These conceptions have not been formed out of thin air, but out of solid facts; and a very solid fact, thank Heaven! it is, that though semi-civilised people or codes may treat "Women" as a chattel, yet individual women will here and there be found to hand on the torch which lights up from age to age, while a thousand traditions pass, the tradition of the heart which will never pass.

Jacqueline is betrothed, in her own rank in life. For "pecuniary reasons" she is subsequently *un-betrothed*, and the gallant Chevalier is to marry somebody else. She is actually bidden to accompany the husband and wife to England. Flying to Michel, the registrar, for such help or counsel as a humble friend might give, she learns that he loves her, and that he can help her only in one way—by marrying her. She marries him. Her father is seized and imprisoned. Jacqueline goes from La Faye to Paris to see if she can help him; part of her hope resting upon the fact that Jonquille, brother of Michel, is a deputy. Upon the fall of the Girondists he is beheaded, and that hope is at an end. But Jacqueline does what she can, and deliberately gets herself committed to the Luxembourg, where she is reconciled to her father, and shares his imprisonment. The old aristocrat is beheaded, and we fear some readers will be hardhearted enough to say "serve him right;" for, in one of the most terrible scenes of the book, he treats his daughter with an indignity so brutal that he is never again—we speak for ourselves only—anything but an object of disgust and hatred. The recipient of the injury forgave him, but nobody else can. The rest of the story we shall not tell. The reader must find out for himself the fate of Jacqueline, and how Michel behaved himself. In making his way through the narrative he will have to notice pictures of the revolution, whose verisimilitude of detail will perhaps make it more real to him than anything he ever read before.

And now for a few words of criticism. It is a mistake, whoever does it (and it was done, for example, in "Romola"), to interrupt a story with passages in the historic manner. The large glimpses of the Revolution which the volumes afford will be acceptable to numerous readers, but they are "flaws in the stratification"—and a sensitive mind will feel their incongruity. Take the passages which fill pages 37 to 41 of volume iii. These facts might have been told in a letter (say), woven into the story, but they have no business where they are, in that declamatory shape. Again, we think the historic portraits wanting in breadth and strength of handling, as well as in that insight which alone can give true confidence to the painter. The best is (we think) Robespierre, in whose likeness there is a line of real insight—he had "lost the sense of personality." Again, there are slight digressions and allusions which we think quite out of place. "If a man lives in his own hired house" while a process is pending, why on earth are we to be reminded of the Apostle Paul? Why are we to be told that Charlotte Corday had not Hebrew inspirations? Why is "Clarissa Harlowe" a "doubtful" book? Why should the French be perpetually labelled as "theatrical," as if it were wrong, or even suspicious? To be "theatrical," as the French are so, is merely to have an exacting sense of fitness in externals. Lastly, is it quite fair to call the wittiest man that ever lived, even through the mouth of an old abbé, "an inspired monkey," when he had neither the deceitfulness nor the spitefulness of the ape? But to say that the book contains little arbitrary things of this kind here and there is only to say that it is written by a woman, tenacious on the right side. Sarah Tytler is not only pure—her purity is a sort of strong, intimate household instinct. It is a punctilious jealousy which will have the platter clean both inside and out, and then put it up on the highest shelf that can be reached.

A word of special commendation is due to the character of Babette; to the incomparable manner in which the author's English is made to represent the French idiom; and, lastly, to the beautiful manner in which the book is got up by the publishers.

The Life of Jefferson Davis. From Authentic Sources. By a South Carolinian. London: G. W. Bacon and Co.

The author of this "Life of Jefferson Davis" says he has compiled it from "authentic sources;" and, if so, the book will be a valuable contribution to the literature of the great struggle through which the United States has just passed. Of course we cannot judge as to whether the author's declaration be correct or not; we are willing to believe that it is; but we cannot help thinking that it is yet too early to have all the authentic sources at command for producing a complete record of the life and policy of the Confederate President. We are bound to say, however, that the book seems to be written in a tolerably fair spirit, though we fancy with a slight leaning to the Unionist side. We have details of Mr. Davis's birth and parentage, of his early life, of his conduct in Mexico, of his subsequent political career both before and after secession, of the toils and anxieties he had to encounter at the head of the Confederacy, and of the final ruin of his cause and his own fall. There are appended to the "Life" some State papers, which are valuable as helping to throw light upon the views and policy of Mr. Davis and his colleagues. In the absence of a larger and more complete work, which we hope will one day be written, either by Mr. Davis himself or some one thoroughly conversant with his views, we welcome this contribution to the history of one of the most remarkable struggles and most remarkable men of this century.

The Red Shirt. Episodes. By ALBERTO MARIO. London: Smith, Elder, and Co.

"The Red Shirt" is a collection of six chapters of Garibaldian history, describing the daring deeds of the leader and his followers from the beginning of the Calabrian expedition to the morning when Victor Emmanuel was first called King of Italy. From the moment when "two hundred and ten Garibaldians crossed their chief's invisible bridge, and alighted in the midst of fourteen thousand Bourbon soldiers," the history is one triumphal march, which, however, closes in a strain sad enough to the principal man of those who had fought the battle. To say nothing of what followed, the last paragraph written here reminds us to mistrust the princes of this earth. It is the departure from Naples. "Now, crowned with glory, he (Garibaldi) withdrew from the cold breath of oblivion, escorted by a few faithful friends, who loved him best when Fortune loved him least. On the deck of the Washington he bade adieu to Naples and to us, adding, 'We shall meet again on the path to Rome.'" Signor Mario would have completed his book, though perhaps only for a time, had he written one more episode.

Signor Mario writes well, and, indeed, his pages have already tasted approbation in the pages of the *Cornhill Magazine*. It is a purely personal account, written by a companion and friend of the great chieftain; but it can claim to be no more, compared to history, than the looziest possible memoranda. At least one half of it is in dialogue, which may have been written down as it took place, but which may also be an effort of an easy imagination or a powerful memory. Clio has lost her stateliness, and seems to be chatting round the fire with the children. But whilst sedateness has been sacrificed amusement has been gained, and the author of "The Red Shirt" is always humorous concerning eating and drinking, his personal disasters, or his wife's courage. He seems to have borne every danger and discomfort with the bravery of a soldier; and though he himself tells the tale it is always with proper modesty, which does not always accompany merit.

The Pleasures of Memory. By SAMUEL ROGERS. London: Sampson Low and Co.

Whether Rogers's poem on memory deserves to maintain its place in the estimation of the world has been questioned, and may be questioned again; but as to the harmony of the verse, and the care with which the author polished his lines, there has never been, and never can be, any doubt. Neither can there be any dispute as to the neatness of the present edition of the work. It is very carefully printed and nicely illustrated. In a notice prefixed to the volume we are told that "some of these illustrations—the larger ones—are produced by a new process, without the aid of an engraver; and some little indulgence is asked for them, on the plea of the inexperience of the artists in this process. The drawing is made with an etching-needle, or any suitable point, upon a glass plate spread with collodion. It is then photographed upon a prepared surface of wax, and from this surface an electrotpe is forced in relief, which is printed with the type. By these means the artist's own work is preserved; and, though it may be impossible for this process to rival the delicacy of a good engraving upon wood, yet it can lay claim to an accurate fidelity which can only be equalled by etchings upon copper." Though we are free to own that some of the illustrations produced in the way described are not equal to first-class wood-engravings, yet we think that a satisfactory measure of success has been achieved, and further practice is pretty likely to perfect a valuable means of reproducing the finest touches of our best draughtsmen. The book altogether is a very pretty one.

Hardwicke's Science Gossip. Edited by M. C. COOKE. London: R. Hardwicke.

A gossip style of writing is usually popular. People generally like to read about men and things in an easy, off-hand way, without requiring to tax their faculties by prolonged and close application to the mastering of abstruse dogmas. This is especially the case with science, which is apt to be repulsive from the fact that its nomenclature is of a learned, hard, technical character, involving a knowledge of the roots and derivation of words before a clear idea can be obtained of the things designated by the terms employed. To popularise science, therefore, is to make its study attractive. And this is very successfully accomplished in "Hardwicke's Science Gossip," the first completed volume of which has just been issued. The work, which appears monthly, is edited by Mr. M. C. Cooke, and contains a vast amount of valuable and interesting information on

the progress of scientific research conveyed in familiar and agreeable language, and must be of great service to all whose duties or inclination make it necessary for them to keep abreast of the progress of the times in scientific matters.

The Electric Telegraph. By W. H. RUSSELL, LL.D. Illustrated by Robert Dudley. London: Day and Son.

With the story of the last attempt to lay an electric cable across the Atlantic the public are already familiar. Dr. Russell's diary, of which the present work is an expansion, told the tale in such graphic language as to impress the narrative on the memory of all who read it. In this work, which is beautifully printed, we have full details of the expedition, accompanied by finely-coloured lithographic illustrations from the pencil of Mr. Robert Dudley, who, as well as Dr. Russell, joined the great ship for the express purpose. Whether the effort to lay an electric cable direct from continent to continent will ever be successful, may be matter of doubt; but that Dr. Russell and his coadjutor have admirably delineated the events of the late attempt admits of no doubt whatever. The book, which is dedicated to the Prince of Wales, is magnificently got up, and will always command interest and admiration.

The Humbugs of the World. By P. T. BARNUM. London: J. C. Hotten.

A history of humbugs, by the prince of the confraternity—for such we hold Mr. Barnum to be, notwithstanding the opinion of the publisher to the contrary—must needs be an amusing and interesting if not very instructive work. And Mr. Barnum certainly has produced an amusing book, though not, perhaps, quite so racy as might have been expected from the title, and the career of the author. Still, Mr. Barnum discourses of how the world is gulled in a frank and amusing way, his own personal reminiscences, which occupy a considerable portion of the volume, being especially agreeable. In one respect the author has done good service, in thoroughly exposing the humbuggery of the Spiritualists in general and the Davenportists in particular. It is very likely, however, that the world, which rather likes to be imposed upon, will go on believing in and patronising these charlatans, notwithstanding this and all other exposures.

Reeton's Book of Jokes and Jest; or, Good Things Said and Sung. London: Frederick Warne and Co.

This is a handsome shilling collection of all the jokes which have ever figured, from Bacon to Joe Miller, and down to the present time. We could quote every page. Of course, we must expect to find "An Oxford wag once"—and "Napoleon's hat once fell off at a review, when"—and a thousand other familiar and favourite stories; but, at the same time, there is a fine sprinkling of French anecdote, and also of American of to-day, and not all of them from President Lincoln. It is the cheapest and best collection we know.

Paul Ferroll: A Tale. Entanglements. By the Author of "Mr. Arle," &c. London: Smith, Elder, and Co.

To Smith and Elder's Monthly Volumes of Standard Authors—a series which has already taken a decided place in cheap literature—there have lately been added "Paul Ferroll" and "Entanglements." Both these works are already known to the reading public, and it will therefore be unnecessary to say more than that they are got up in the same neat and superior style which distinguishes the other volumes of Messrs. Smith and Elder's shilling series of works by standard authors.

BOOKS FOR THE YOUNG.

Balderscourt; or, Holiday Tales. By the Rev. H. C. ADAMS, M.A., Author of "The White Brunswickers," "School-boy Honour," &c. London: George Routledge and Sons.

That books will ever continue to be regarded as appropriate gifts at this and at all periods of the year, there can be little doubt, for the distributions of prizes at our schools, both public and private, sufficiently testify to the fact; but the question as to the particular works most fitted for selection may admit of some consideration, and the literary productions of Christmas time would seem to prove that a divided opinion exists upon that point in the minds of both authors and publishers. Certain it is that many "books for the young" partake somewhat too much of the extravagantly jocose for the proper edification of the rising generation, whilst others may be considered too didactic, if not too metaphysical, in their tendency. The little volume now before us may be said to be neither too comic nor too serious; but is evidently written by a thoughtful man who knows how to tickle the palate of the youthful reader as well as to satisfy him with more substantial food, and who in his mode of telling his stories does not so much seek to point a moral as to leave the moral to be drawn by those who may be induced to dwell upon his pages. The tales are ten in number, and each is distinguished from the others in its general tone and characteristics, though all may be described as radiating from one centre-point. The author's design has been the by no means novel one of gathering together around a fireside a variety of characters, each of whom, in order to "beguile the tedious time" on a winter's evening, engages general attention by relating a story. The scene is an Elizabethan mansion, called Balderscourt, situated in the West of England, and occupied by a gentleman of ancient descent and large fortune, named Wood, who has a numerous family of children of various ages, from five to seventeen. These children it was Mr. Wood's custom to assemble around him after dinner, and the stories are told by half a dozen grown-up persons, all of whom are introduced, in due order, to the reader, their several characteristics being minutely and graphically described. "The Smuggler's Cave," "The Enchanted Ring," "The Three Talismans," "The Puritan's Ward," "The Corner of Dragons," and "The Rat Prince," may be mentioned as specimens of the titles, and from these it may be inferred that the enduring taste for romance and fairy land has been amply appealed to. The mode of narration is always lucid and entertaining, and the tales are wrought together by a connecting link which agreeably keeps up an occasional dialogue between those who relate the tales and those who listen to them. On the whole, the book may be considered an interesting addition to the holiday enjoyments of the day.

The Sedan-Chair and Sir Wilfred's Seven Flights. By M^{rs}. DE CHATELAIN. With Illustrations. London: George Routledge and Sons.

Like the preceding volume, this also comprises a succession of romantic tales, told for the entertainment of the young. The scene chosen for the performance of the narrator's duty is a country house near the Hague, whither a party of English refugees attached to the Stuart cause had fled in the troublous times of the Commonwealth. In spite of certain differences of opinion existing amongst them, the most exemplary harmony reigned in their midst, and each used his best endeavours to cheer the spirits of the others. It was their custom when Christmas came round to celebrate it as much as possible after the English fashion, and toasts were drunk to the restoration of the young Monarch for whose sake they had left their homes in England, and who they fondly hoped would one day prove worthy of the self-sacrifice they had made. Amongst these loyal exiles was the patriarch of the party—one Sir Charles Neville—whose general conduct formed the only exception to the feeling of conviviality which distinguished the convalesce, for this gloomy Baronet is oppressed by some solemn mystery which excites the wonder and curiosity of those around him. At length he is prevailed upon to tell the secret which weighs upon his mind, and then it appears that he is overwhelmed by the recollection of a sedan-chair which had been destroyed by fire in an old house at Westminster, formerly occupied by an eccentric ancestor, by name Sir Wilfred. In a mysterious closet, where the sedan-chair had lain concealed, was found, after the fire, a bundle of musty papers, containing seven flights or journeys which the said Sir Wilfred had performed

in the chair, that remarkable structure being so preternaturally contrived that the owner had only to seat himself in it to be transported to any far-distant place which he might desire to visit. In the course of the seven flights which are here described as having been taken by Sir Wilfred, he witnesses a sufficient number of extraordinary scenes—many of them supernatural, and all of them more or less of a startling and sensational kind—to satisfy the cravings of the most enthusiastic worshipper at the shrine of Romance. Not to speak of the utter absurdity of making a sedan-chair the "vehicle" for conveying to the world a series of improbable stories, the machinery employed to introduce that object is of a somewhat cumbrous description; and it is not until the reader is wearied by long dialogues and disquisitions regarding antecedent events, that he begins to have any insight into the meaning of "The Sedan-Chair," as the title of the book.

The Complete Works of Oliver Goldsmith, comprising his Essays, Plays, and Poetical Works. With a Memoir by WILLIAM SPALDING, M.A., Professor of Logic, &c., in the University of St. Andrews. Illustrated. London: Charles Griffin and Co.

This edition of the works of Goldsmith is prefaced by a well-written and highly-appreciative memoir by Professor Spalding, and has sprinkled through it some very fine illustrations. In order to give the whole of Goldsmith's works in one volume—even, as in this instance—of 400 and odd pages, it is indispensable that the print should be comparatively small. Such is the case here; but, though small, the type is clear, the printing and paper good, and the volume altogether exceedingly well got up and strongly bound. One is always pleased to see the features and to have an opportunity of comparing the handwritings of great men; and both those pleasures are afforded us in this volume. We have a capital portrait of the author, and a well-executed facsimile of a letter in Goldsmith's handwriting, which, though small, is beautifully plain and regular: a remarkable feature in the calligraphy of so immemorial a person as Goldsmith. It would be difficult to find a book better adapted than this to put into the hands of a youth with a taste for reading, and whose mind and judgment it is desirable to cultivate by a perusal of good models.

The Childhood of Jesus. Christ's Wonderful Works. By the Author of "Doing and Suffering." London: J. F. Shaw and Co.

These two little books, which are very neatly got up and are illustrated by superior wood-engravings (some of them tastefully coloured), relate in simple language, and in the form of narrative and conversation, the events of the childhood and the works of the manhood of our Lord. Everything about these books is pleasing and attractive, and they must be of immense service in drawing the young mind to love and reverence the career and character of Him who spoke and acted as never man did. Better or prettier books could not possibly be put into the hands of the young.

Tales from Shakspeare; Designed for the Use of Young Persons. By CHARLES LAMB. With Illustrations by John Gilbert. London: G. Routledge and Sons.

Shakspeare has been in one respect like his own inimitable Falstaff—he was not only a fertile writer himself, but has been the source of much fertility in others. We have had "Stories from Shakspeare," "Galleries of Shakspearean Characters," "The Women of Shakspeare," and so on; not to reckon the endless commentaries, notes, and controversies for which his works have furnished themes. And now we have from Mr. Charles Lamb a very neat volume of "Tales from Shakspeare," which are mainly a rendering into familiar prose of the incidents of the principal of the Shakspearean tragedies and comedies. The author intends them as an introduction to the study of Shakspeare; and as it is a "consummation devoutly to be wished" that all young persons should study the great dramatist, we hope Mr. Lamb's labours will not be in vain. But he will, we are sure, excuse us when we say that we should have a very poor opinion of the boy who did not speedily quit the introduction and go at once to the fountain-head—Shakspeare's plays themselves. The "histories" are, of course, excluded from this work, as the incidents on which they are founded are contained in "Hollished and Hall," and in the more regular annals of England. Though Mr. Lamb's book is not Shakspeare, and can never be a substitute for him, it is nevertheless a good and pleasing work, and merits perusal.

Good Dogs; or, Stories of our Four-footed Friends for Children. London: Seeley, Jackson, and Halliday.

Dogs and their doings—their friendship for man, their faithfulness, and their services—are themes of never-failing interest, especially to the young. In this little volume we have a series of excellent stories about dogs, introduced by a familiar talk about the noble animals, and interspersed with neat illustrations. The stories are told in simple language, suited to the comprehension of children, to whom they cannot fail to be welcome.

The Boy's Book of Trades and the Tools used in them. By one of the Authors of "England's Workshops." London: Routledge and Sons.

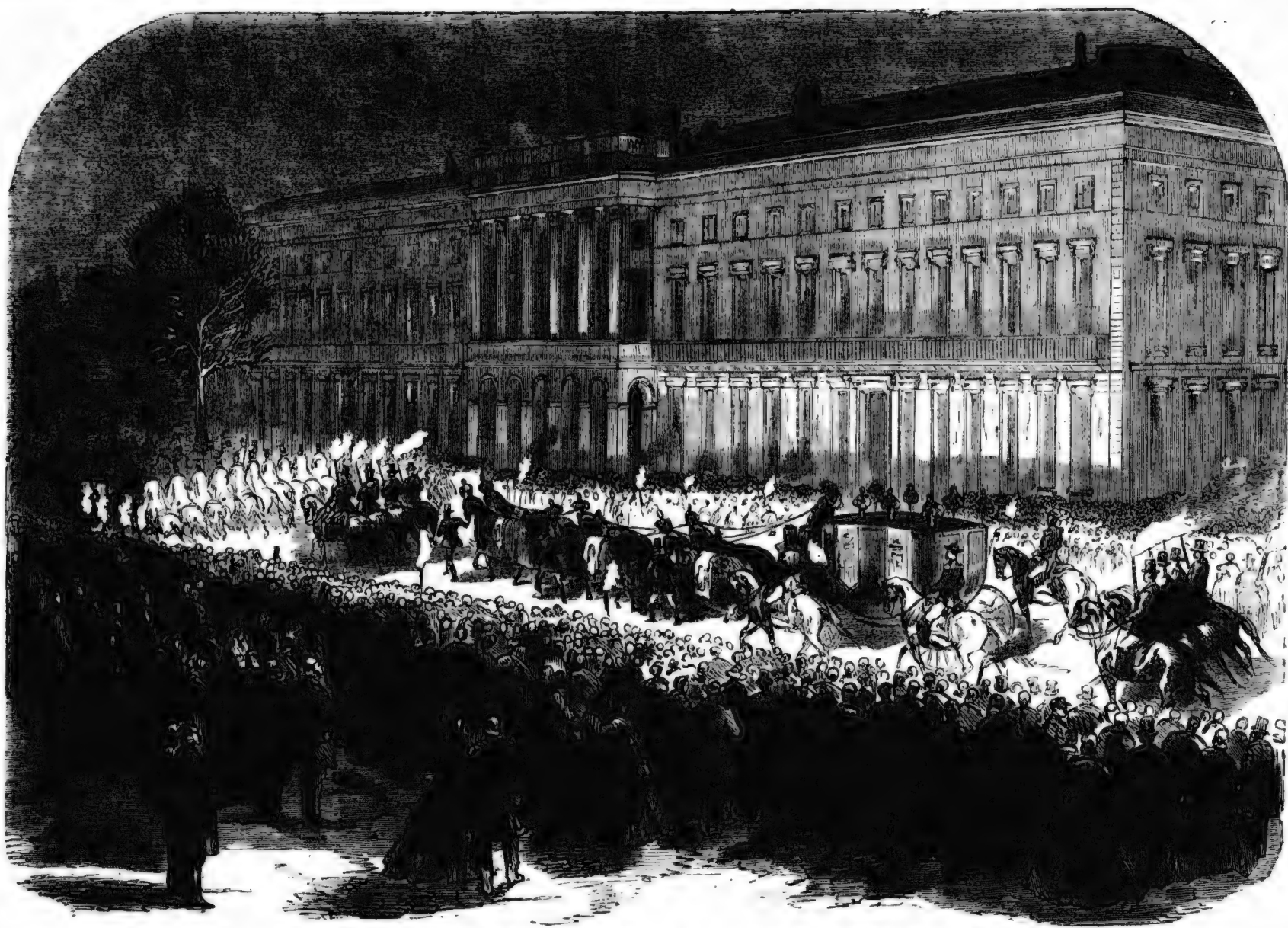
Every boy, almost, has a natural aptitude and inclination for Mechanics, to foster and develop which is one of the most useful tasks to which a man can devote himself. Every one may be the better, and no one can be the worse, for knowing a trade, and being familiar with the nature and use of the tools necessary to its practice. Kings have set the example in this, and have found most agreeable relaxation from the cares of State in mechanical operations; and what is good for Kings cannot be bad for subjects, whatever their position or prospects. Mechanical operations tend to strengthen and develop the physical powers, to give vigour to the muscles and powers of endurance to the whole frame, while at the same time they impart a nicety of hand, and an appreciation of form and the fitness of things to each other, all of which are valuable aids in life in whatever sphere a man may be called upon to labour. We have therefore great pleasure in recommending "The Boy's Book of Trades," which will be found a useful help to amateurs and an invaluable assistant to those whose lot it may be to follow mechanical avocations as a means of livelihood. The several trades described, and the tools used in them, are well illustrated by engravings on wood.

Routledge's Every Boy's Annual: an Entertaining Miscellany of Original Literature. Edited by EDMUND ROUTLEDGE. London: G. Routledge and Sons.

This is a large volume of miscellaneous papers suited for the reading of boys who have already acquired a certain amount of literary taste. The work contains papers by the editor and the late Mr. J. G. Edgar, as well as by Messrs. R. M. Ballantyne, Temple Thorold, W. H. G. Kingston, W. Robson, the Rev. Charles Williams, Mrs. Rymer Jones, &c. Its contents embrace history, tales, instruction in English, science, mechanics, charades, algebraical puzzles, and so on, and are well adapted to instruct and amuse young minds. Several of the papers are illustrated.

We have received two more nursery books from Messrs. Ward, Lock, and Tyler. One of these, "Mamma's New Picture Alphabet," is well enough in its way. The pictures are tolerably good, and the verses, "A was an angler, so patient and still," &c., are of the same character as the usual run of such productions. Of the other book, however, "Nursery Rhymes and Rigmorles," all we can say is that it has received a thoroughly appropriate title.

SURGICAL BARONETS.—From an analysis of the calendar of the College of Surgeons, which has just been published, it appears that only five gentlemen have had this honour conferred upon them since the establishment of the college, in 1800—viz., Sir Everard Home, who filled the office of president in the years 1813 and 1821; Sir David Dundas, who filled the same office in 1819; Sir Astley Paston Cooper, in 1827 and 1836; Sir Benjamin Collins Brodie, in 1844; and the recently-appointed Sir William Ferguson. There have been only four knights—viz., Sir Charles Blincoe, Sir James Esdaile, Sir William Blizard, and Sir Anthony Carlisle.



REMOVAL OF THE BODY OF THE LATE KING LEOPOLD FROM LAEKEN TO BRUSSELS.—SEE PAGE 412.

THE ELECTIONS IN PESTH.

We have in a previous Number given some particulars of the capital of Hungary, one of the most remarkable cities of Europe, not because of its antiquity, but because it is an example of the rapid growth and improvement of an unimportant town. Our Engraving this week represents a scene during the recent election of the Diet—an occurrence which is always attended with immense excitement and displays a remarkable phase of the national character. The candidate is generally either carried on the shoulders of his retainers or is drawn in a carriage by an enthu-

siastic crowd, amidst frantic yells and acclamations, not unattended with tumultuous onslaughts and faction-fights which too often lead to some tragical end. On the present occasion, although there has been less of this kind of display, several severe conflicts have occurred amongst the more violent partisans of particular members.

In Pesth the elections commence with a procession of several hundred people (many of whom carry torches and drawn swords) to the house of the elected Deputy. Each member of the cortege has his hat decorated with a plume of feathers of the candidate's colour, and with his name displayed thereon in letters of gold. A number

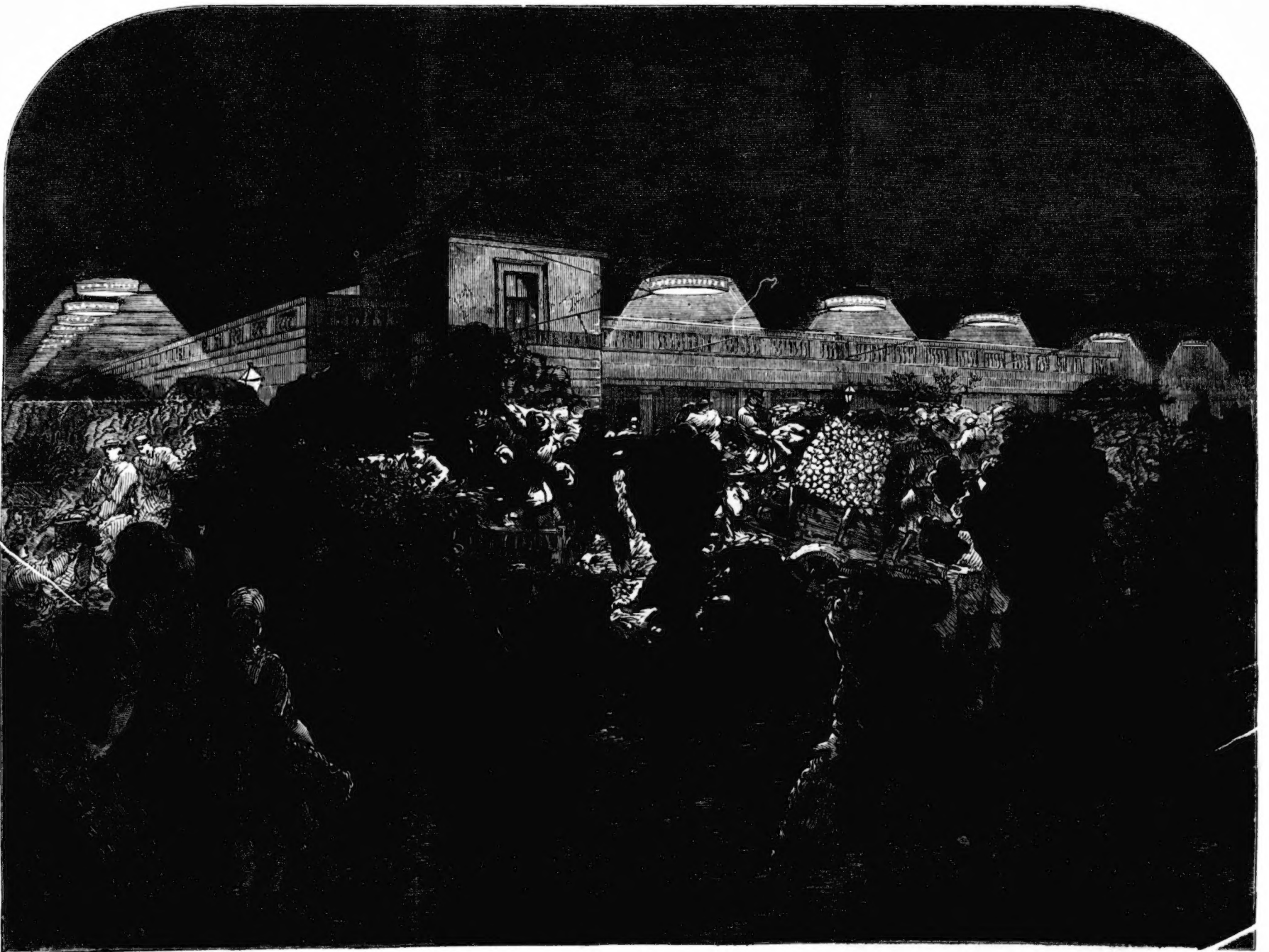
of tricoloured flags, also bearing his name, are carried amidst the crowd or depend from the windows of the houses on the route. Having arrived at the house, the procession forms in a solid square, the centre of which is occupied by the armed escort and the standard-bearers, surrounded by those who carry the lighted torches. Then, after no end of speech-making, every hat is removed while the crowd sings in chorus the Hymn of Kolcsey or the Szoyat of Vörösmarty, the Bohemians accompanying with their itinerant orchestra. This scene, lighted by the glare of the torches and accompanied by the sad strains of the Magyar chant, is extremely impressive and



THE LATE ELECTIONS IN HUNGARY: NOMINATION OF HERR F. DEAK AS A CANDIDATE FOR PESTH.



THE FIELD OF THE CLOTH OF GOLD: TOURNAMENT AT THE AGRICULTURAL HALL.



CHRISTMAS MARKET, COVENT GARDEN.

even solemn; but all at once the Ziguener changes the measure to a wild and rapid dance-tune. Suddenly is heard the clank of sabres and the crash of arms, as a thousand feet beat the earth in unison. Then the whole tumultuous mob begins to move in a regular but fantastic figure, and in another moment the Csardas—the national dance of Hungary—completes the strange performance; after which the people disperse, and through the streets sounds the wild cry of "Eljen! Eljen!"

THE GRAND TOURNAMENT IN THE AGRICULTURAL HALL.

THE days of the small circus, with its crowd of persons sitting close around the ring within arm's-length of the rider have passed away in London, and such places of entertainment are only carried about the country from fair to fair. If there is to be an exhibition of horse-riding in the metropolis now there must be an hippodrome; a pageant; men in armour; a procession, bands of music, and all that sort of thing; and, perhaps, no place is better or so well suited for such a display as the Agricultural Hall. A week ago, to be sure, it was filled with cattle and cattle-lairs, fat pigs and jolly farmers; but a caterer for the public, with the energy and enterprise of Mr. Rudkin, soon alters the appearance of any place in which his performances are to take place to suit it to his purpose; and Mr. Rudkin's energy has been well rewarded, for at the full-dress rehearsal on Saturday last there were about 10,000 spectators present, and the number was even greater who on Boxing Night found themselves assembled in what appeared, not the scene of a cattle show, but a baronial hall and spacious hippodrome. The arrangements for boxes, and the vast amphitheatre which now presents itself, have taken the place of the rustic cattle lairs, which little more than a week since occupied the same site. The area of the building has been richly decorated with escutcheons, coats of arms, flags, and banners of immense size and richness suitable to the great area of the building. The illumination, which is so important in such a place, was intrusted to Messrs. Defries and Son, who have fitted up a magnificent chandelier, the ornamentation of which combines shields, flags, helmets and other heraldic emblems. Eight reflecting rings of great brilliancy are suspended from the roof of the building, and there are in addition many beautiful crystal emblems, Prince of Wales's feathers, stars, crowns, &c., which gave the building, so far as the lighting is concerned, a most brilliant appearance. The hippodrome, which occupies the whole centre of the building, is surrounded by a vast amphitheatre, capable, it is stated, of affording accommodation to 20,000 persons. The entertainment surpasses any thing of the kind ever produced in this country. Two years since Messrs. Strange and Pulleyn introduced at the same place a grand spectacle in the shape of a pageant and tournament of the olden time, by which these two gentlemen in the course of a few weeks realised, as report goes, a handsome fortune. Grand, however, as that entertainment was, it is completely thrown into the shade by the efforts made by Mr. Rudkin, who has become the lessee, and his manager, Mr. John Henderson. The preliminaries to the grand dénouement were a series of equestrian and other entertainments, the most remarkable of which were the extraordinary performances of Herr Otto Motti, a German juggler, on horseback; the rival giants, a comic act by the clowns; Joan d'Arc, by Mdme. Bridges, from the Cirque Napoleon; Mr. John Henderson on the flying wires; Mdle. Rose Masotta in a daring act on a swift steed; the wondrous Jean Bond on the magic ladder; and the German rider, Herr Gerard Goldschmidt. There were also Roman chariot-races; still more exciting competition with couriers, each riding and driving four horses; bare-backed steeds, steeple and hurdle races, which, together with the graceful performances of the beautiful and highly-trained horse of the manager, Soliman, ridden by Mdme. Brides, formed in itself a programme quite sufficient for one evening's entertainment. The event of the evening, however, was the "Chivalrous Tournament," founded on "The Field of the Cloth of Gold," the pageant connected with which employed upwards of 100 horses, men in 250 suits of real armour, and 500 performers. The parts of Henry VIII. and Francis I. were severally sustained by Mr. J. H. Pearson and Mr. Giuseppe; Queen Catherine, Mdme. Taclot; Queen Claude of France, Miss Hunter; Queen of Love and Beauty, Miss Hanson; and Le Duc de Bourbon (Champion Knight), Mr. J. Henderson. The procession was marshalled with the greatest care, and the marching, led by the band, who were evidently trained soldiers or volunteers, under Mr. Sibold, band-master of the Victoria Rifles, was unexceptionable. The tournament was carried out in a manner which drew down several rounds of applause, and Mr. Rudkin and his manager were called upon more than once to receive the ovations of a delighted audience. The entry of the pageant into the arena, announced by a pair of trumpeters, was a very grand and imposing spectacle. First came two squires, clad in suits of polished steel armour, and mounted on highly-trained, steady old circus horses. Then came a posse of men-at-arms, and then a brass band, with musical instruments of the period, and a liberal allowance of trombone and drum. Knights and squires, pages and pursuivants, came next, and next; and then there was King Hal, less bluff than he is painted by Holbein, and, morally speaking, perhaps less black than he has been painted by history; then the two Queens, accommodated each with a canopy, rode at intervals in the procession, and Cardinal Wolsey; and soon after they had passed came something red, on four wheels, which was not a coach, being all outside, nor a mail-cart, being crowded with females. Towering above them all was the Queen of Beauty, whose charms bore a certain local resemblance to Samson's strength—which was in his hair. King Francis, rather huddled up in the ruck of banner-carriers and men in armour, bestrode a clever trick-horse; while the accomplished and captivating Charles Brandon, Duke of Norfolk, the Lords of St. Pol, Montmorency, and Biron; the Marquis of Dorset, Sir Richard Jerningham, Sir William Kingston, and Sir Giles Capell were, in the fullest sense of the word, nowhere. But the Duke of Bourbon was conspicuously present—in fact "all there," and he condescended to superintend the whole pageant, and to marshal the whole procession. It was well worthy of note, as showing the hardihood of royalty as well as of knighthood in those days, that King Harry and King Francis tilted, not in the ribbed steel armour which they sometimes wore—perhaps for dancing or banqueting—but in silk attire, such as became them bravely in the lists. The feats of arms and of horsemanship terminated with what, in the language of heralds, used to be called a "rally;" and every body worth mentioning had a horse carefully killed under him.

COVENT GARDEN AT CHRISTMAS.

THE Duke of Bedford may be the heir of the old monks who once wonned in the convent near the Strand; but the site of their "pleasant garden" still bears about it associations connected with the purpose to which the spot was formerly devoted. There is no garden there now, it is true; but the produce of many gardens are every day disposed of on the ground once sacred to the seclusion and meditation of the holy fathers. Here we have the greatest mart for garden produce perhaps in the world. Fruits, flowers, and vegetables of all kinds are displayed here in profusion at all seasons of the year, though each particular period has a show peculiar to itself. In summer we have green peas in galore; but at the opposite period of the year, Christmas—if we may be allowed so to express ourselves—Covent-garden presents a different aspect. Fruits and evergreens—the holly and the mistletoe—are then the great staples disposed of. Oranges, apples, nuts, raisins, currants—everything, in fact, that comes under the description of "new fruits for Christmas"—is to be found here in abundance. Not that flowers and vegetables are altogether absent; but these now play a comparatively secondary part. Fruits and evergreens are the great desiderata at this season; and our Engraving will show those who have not been to see for themselves in what profusion, and of what high quality, are the materials for puddings and desserts, and for parlour decoration, that make their appearance in Covent-garden at Christmas-tide.

OPERA CONCERTS, ETC.

THE Royal Italian Opera has at last made its great coup for the season. "L'Africaine," in an English dress, was a great success; but "Aladdin," in the form of a pantomime, has proved a hit of the first magnitude.

The only musical novelty that Christmas has given us has been an English version of Offenbach's "Orphée aux Enfers," produced under the title of "Orpheus in the Haymarket." We are not great admirers of M. Offenbach's music, but probably the best he has written is to be found in "Orphée," of which the principal pieces have long been known in England. M. Offenbach has certainly a talent for the composition of dance-music, and the galop in "Orphée aux Enfers" is about the most successful that has been written since the celebrated one in Auber's "Gustave;" to which, in other respects, we should not dream of comparing it. Whatever other merits M. Offenbach's music may possess, it is certainly without elegance or grace. It is also deficient in originality. But in most of his airs there is a strongly-marked rhythm, and they cut up well into quadrille tunes. This is enough, and more than enough, to please a large portion of the French public. As for the Germans, we don't believe that any work of M. Offenbach's has been much played in Germany, except "Orpheus," which is properly regarded as a burlesque (and a very amusing one), with original music, and is never given at an operatic theatre. In the Haymarket version of "Orpheus" the music is in many respects better sung than it was in Paris. But the acting is not nearly so good, and it is on the acting, quite as much as on the singing, that the success of such a piece must depend.

The *Orchestra* published a paragraph last Saturday to the effect that Mdle. Ilma de Murska was no more. Some silly or malicious gossip-mongers (gossip-mongers are generally both) spread this report ten or twelve days ago. It at last reached Mdle. de Murska herself (about the same time that it seems to have reached the *Orchestra*), and she at once wrote a letter to her agent in London, Mr. Jarrett, in which she assures him, in her own handwriting, that she is alive. Mr. Jarrett appears to have communicated this letter to the *Musical World*, which contradicted the rumour of Mdle. de Murska's death the same day that the *Orchestra* published it. After the distressing reports that have been circulated about Mdle. de Murska's death, we are only too glad to hear that she is alive, and already sufficiently recovered to be able to write. But who is it, we wonder, that sets such reports going? How pleasant for Mdle. de Murska's friends—how agreeable for Mdle. de Murska herself—to meet with it!

The National College of Music, under the direction of Mr. Henry Leslie, expires this year. On Friday, the 22nd inst., at a meeting of subscribers, it was resolved unanimously that this present term should be the last. There is some talk, however, of the National College of Music being incorporated with the new "Academy" of Messrs. Benedict and Lindsay Sloper. The Society of British Musicians also comes to an end with the present year.

A French journal gives an interesting account of Mdle. Carlotta Patti's first concert at Pesh. More than 3000 persons were present. The orchestra and the stage were invaded by the audience, and Alexandre Dumas might have been seen in the first rank presiding at this musical festival. La Carlotta, as was acknowledged by all the press, surpassed herself at this concert. The air from the "Pardon de Plœmel," above all, was sung to perfection. At the end of the morceau, the excellent Dumas, who was unable to put the mute upon his enthusiasm, rose from his sofa to go and shake Carlotta by the hand. The effect produced by this demonstration is easy to comprehend. The three thousand spectators rose as one man, and began clapping and roaring with such force as to threaten to shake the building about their ears. As for Carlotta, she was called twenty times before the curtain to receive the applauses of an idolatrous, and in some respects a fanatic, public. After the concert M. Dumas requested to be presented to the cantatrice, and addressed to her one of those compliments which he alone knows how to use. "You have had," he cried, terminating his speech, "the greatest success which can satisfy the ambition of an artist." "But the greater success than all," replied Carlotta, "to have made your acquaintance, dear master." "Oh!" exclaimed Dumas, in an ecstasy of feeling, "such talent, beauty, *esprit* in a single person is too much!" And, opening his arms to the charming artist, he embraced her many times in presence of some fifty people who surrounded them. The next day he called upon her and wrote in her album these two verses, more remarkable for intention than for correctness of the rhyme:—

A CARLOTTA PATTI.
Je me plais à t'entendre, éant homme et chrétien;
Mais si j'étais oiseau, j'en mourrais de chagrin.

A. DUMAS.

Covent Garden was always celebrated for the splendour of its pantomimes. It certainly has not lost its reputation in that respect since the conversion of the old abode of the "legitimate drama" into an opera-house, and we doubt whether at any period of its history a more magnificent Christmas piece was produced on its stage than that of "Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp." The author of the work is Mr. E. L. Blanchard; the scene painter, Mr. T. Grieve; the composer of the music, Mr. W. H. Montgomery; the ballet-master, M. Desplaces; and the stage-manager, Mr. W. West. In the "Aladdin" of the Royal English Opera, the best-known story in "The Arabian Nights" is presented to the public, for the first time, "in strict accordance with the manners and customs of the place and period of the famous tale." This, at least, is the claim put forward by the author, and it is a claim which may well be maintained. The author, moreover, instead of taking from the original tale simply those incidents which suited his purpose as a burlesque-writer, has told the old story, scene by scene, and has proved that he is not only a pantomimist, but a dramatist as well. In the "opening," the great feature (at least in a humorous point of view) is the acting of the Messrs. Payne—father and son—the former in the part of Abanazar, an African magician, the latter in that of his "dumb slave." The scenes between the inimitable Payne senior and the equally inimitable Payne junior have long been the glory of the Covent Garden pantomime, and the first scene in the "opening" of "Aladdin" is as good as anything in the same style ("tragic-grotesque," it might be called) that has been witnessed since the celebrated duel between the "Demon of Remorse" and Blue Beard in the "Blue Beard" pantomime. The transformation scene in "Aladdin," even in the days of transformation scenes, is remarkable for its magnificence. It is, we need hardly say, not a tableau merely, but a succession of pictures, all well designed, beautifully painted, and brilliantly lighted up.

The pantomime is preceded by Mr. Deffell's "Christmas Eve," which, on Boxing Night, was listened to with much impatience. The piece is known to be tiresome, and persons who cannot stand being bored should not go the theatre until it is over. It finishes now at about eight o'clock.

A STATUE IN A MILAN CHURCH, which has long been famous for weeping in the presence of unbelievers, was recently moved in order to facilitate repairs for the church. It was found that the statue contained an arrangement for boiling water. The steam passed up into the head, and was there condensed. The water then made its way by a couple of pipes to the eyes, and trickled down upon the cheeks of the image.

EXHIBITION OF NATIONAL PORTRAITS.—The galleries in which the Earl of Derby's great scheme, so historically suggestive, is soon to find its realisation are in rapid progress of completion at South Kensington. The galleries are perfectly dry. The arrangements to maintain a proper uniform temperature (excluding all fire from the premises) and for constant watch by the police give every security that can be provided. They have a quiet look of fitness both in their simple arrangement and decorative colouring, and are calculated to contain about 600 pictures, about the number of British oil paintings exhibited in 1862. We understand that they will not fail to be adequately filled. On all hands there has been a hearty response, and many family treasures, which have never before left walls where they have hung for generations, have been placed at the disposal of the committee. It has been proposed that the first year's exhibition, which is to open in April next, should extend to the Revolution of 1688; but we learn that the number of fine portraits offered may perhaps compel the committee to terminate the first year's exhibition with the portraits of the Commonwealth.

LAW AND CRIME.

THE murderer Forward, or Southey, as he had renamed himself, has been convicted and sentenced to be hanged. His behaviour upon his trial exhibited all those mingled aspects of vanity, loquacity, and petty cunning which have rendered his career infamous and brought him to his miserable doom. He wished to defend himself in person instead of by counsel; he insisted upon his name being taken as Ernest Walter Southey, declaring that there was "a vital principle" involved in it. Since his trial he insists upon being called by his right name, Stephen Forward, thereby showing his object to have been to baffle justice by some petty quibbling between the two cognomens. He interrupted the proceedings by hysterical outbursts and by bad acting, in order to induce a belief in his madness. When all went against him, he declared himself to be "a murdered man," in order to excite for himself a commiseration which he has never once exhibited towards any one of his unfortunate victims. An attempt was made to prove him insane, but it failed utterly. It is remarkable that not even those of our contemporaries who usually oppose capital punishments raise a voice in favour of sparing the life of this criminal.

A gang of poachers was tried at Leeds, before Mr. Justice Shee, for murdering a gamekeeper. The story was, as usual, that the poachers had been interrupted by the keepers, and had, in turn, attacked them with bludgeons. As a keeper was killed, the result, in the eye of the law, was murder, and Mr. Justice Shee so directed the jury, who, nevertheless, perversely returned a verdict of manslaughter only. Upon this, the learned Judge, in sentencing the prisoners to various terms of penal servitude (for life to the principals), said, "I did not feel myself at liberty to suggest the alternative of a verdict of manslaughter to the jury. Upon them, not upon me, is the responsibility of that verdict. You have the benefit of it; but as respects two of you, at least, I doubt if there is any of your fellow-subjects competent to form an opinion on the evidence who would not have been satisfied if a verdict of wilful murder had been returned." Thus we see a Judge and jury distinctly at variance. Nevertheless, both are right, each from a legal point of view. The Judge is clearly right, inasmuch as he properly expounded the law. But the jury are not wrong, inasmuch as they deem themselves entitled to consider their verdict under (so to speak) an equitable aspect; and the Judge himself, even while protesting, admits their right so to do by receiving a verdict which, if contrary to law and evidence—as, for instance, finding the prisoners guilty of burglary would have been—he would have had the power to refuse. Therefore, it is not in the law, as it stands, that the solution of this dispute must be sought for. It happens, by one of those coincidences which in legal matters so constantly occur, that the same journals which narrate this case as one of an "extraordinary verdict" also record the report of the Commission on capital punishment, and that among their recommendations is one which would have reduced the crime of the poachers to one beneath the penalty of death, and have rendered them liable only to the sentence which Mr. Justice Shee delivered.

The report upon capital punishment is deserving of note, since it will doubtless be adopted to a great extent, if not entirely. The doctrine of "implied malice aforethought," which has led to so many executions of unintentional homicides, is pointed out for revision. Legally, provocation of a kind to reduce killing to manslaughter must be actual violence, while it is easy to conceive that insults, tauntings, and injuries may be sufficient to excite a hasty blow, even with a weapon if at hand, from which a fatal result may accrue beyond the foresight of the slayer. The chief recommendation of the report is that of private executions, to be duly certified by competent authorities. We are henceforth (if this system be adopted) to be spared the ruffianly assemblage and the demoralising results attendant upon public hangings. This is no novel idea. It was advocated, perhaps for the first time, by Henry Fielding ("Causes of the Increase of Robbery," sec. 11), upwards of a century ago; has been urged, in more modern days, by Mr. Charles Dickens; and has long been carried out practically in America. It will no doubt have to encounter some opposition. But it may be remembered that even the old Tyburn processions found an advocate in Dr. Johnson, who lamented that men were to be hanged in a new way. Had the Doctor's predilections been indulged in, the gibbet might still have remained in the place of the Marble Arch, and St. Giles's bowl would yet have been handed to murderers on their procession along Holborn and Oxford-street. Another recommendation by the Commissioners refers to the crime of infanticide, lately so prevalent. The Commissioners suggest that the infliction of violence upon a babe under the age of seven days should be punishable as a distinct offence (if followed by the death of the infant), and that certain evidence, always difficult to procure and seldom to be relied upon, should be dispensed with. Upon this same subject Dr. Lister, the Coroner, has been lecturing at an institution, and it is curious to observe how adverse is his proposed remedy to that of the Commissioners. The Doctor thinks that the punishment for infanticide is not sufficiently severe. The Commissioners wish, on the contrary, to mitigate the penalty, in order to secure convictions of the guilty. What the public wants is, not so much to secure the punishment, light or heavy, of infanticide, but to do away with the crime altogether. This can only be done by rendering it unnecessary, which is a far more philosophical way of putting an end to crime than rendering it punishable. We could point to districts in England—say Yarmouth and Portland, for example—where infanticide never occurs. But we can enter at no greater length into this terrible subject in these columns.

Some poor hawkers were brought before Sir R. Carden upon charges of obstruction. They had been selling cards upon which were printed certain sentences, in what may be called "reversed perspective," and crossed. When these cards are held at a certain oblique angle to the line of vision of one eye only they become legible; otherwise they appear as meaningless lines and scratches. This optical experiment was known many years since under another form. A card used to be sold upon which, from one particular point of view, a castle might be seen depicted, whereas from any other the confusion of lines was bewildering. The Stereoscopic Company has applied the principle of this ancient toy to the before-mentioned sentences through the expansive medium of photography. The street hawkers contrive to obtain the same result by a cheaper plan of engraving, and the company has set the law in motion, by way of protecting its own supposed copyright. The men were discharged upon promising not to offend again, and on giving up their stock of "counterfeit" cards.

THE FENIAN PRESIDENT, ROBERTS, had issued an inaugural address, calling upon the Fenians to act promptly. England must be made to meet privateers on every ocean, and must be struck wherever she is most vulnerable, and where the Irish at home can be best assisted. The Fenians were said to have over 2,000,000 dol. in voluntary cash subscriptions on hand.

NEW RAILWAY CARRIAGE-WHEEL.—An invention of the utmost importance to railway companies and others interested in railway rolling stock has been patented by Mr. Williams Rice, of Boston. It is the application of a loose wheel upon the ordinary revolving axle, means being provided under which the lubrication of the two bearings can be effected. The result from the invention is a saving not only of engine-power, but upon the ordinary wear of the permanent way, the saving being most apparent in traversing sharp curves. A coal-wagon has been adapted to Mr. Rice's plan and used between Boston and Mr. North's colliery at Babington, near Nottingham, and very successfully, for more than seven months, being subject of course to the ordinary rough usage of coal-lines and sidings. After many journeys performed, an examination of the wheels and bearings showed that the whole mechanical arrangements were most satisfactory, and that they might at once be still further applied to railway carriages of all kinds. Whilst running, this adapted wagon was tested by the dynamometer against an ordinary wagon having fixed wheels, equally loaded, with a result of 203 lb. as against 323 lb. respectively. The cost of manufacture, or even of conversion, is reasonable compared with the great saving in power expected to be realised. One wheel only need to be revolving—that is, the near wheel on the leading, and the off wheel on the trailing axle. The invention seems to be most specially adapted to railways having sharp curves, for there the loose wheel is most needed and the power of traction is most sensibly diminished.

LORD PALMERSTON'S WILL.—The will of the Right Hon. Henry John Viscount Palmerston, K.G., G.C.B., was proved in the principal registry of her Majesty's Court of Probate on the 22nd inst. The executors appointed are his relatives, the Right Hon. Emily Mary Viscountess Palmerston, and her second son, the Right Hon. William Palmerston, Copley; but the latter only has proved the will. Power is reserved to Lady Palmerston to do so hereafter. The will is dated Nov. 22, 1864. It occupies only four brief sheets. The last sheet bears his Lordship's signature, "Palmerston," in a firm and clear hand. The personality was sworn under £120,000. His Lordship confirms to his wife all her trinkets, jewels, and paraphernalia, and all things constituting her Ladyship's separate property; and also leaves to her Ladyship, absolutely, his carriages and horses, and the wines and consumable stores at Cambridge House and Broadlands. The deceased Premier has left his letters and papers to Lady Palmerston, which her Ladyship is to retain or deal with as she thinks proper. His Lordship leaves to his brothers-in-law, the Right Hon. Laurence Sullivan and Admiral Sir William Bowles, and to his friends Sir George Shee, Bart., and Sir George Bowles, legacies of £105 each, and to his executor, the Right Hon. W. F. Cowper, six shares in the Welsh Slate Company. The residue of the personality his Lordship bequeaths to Lady Palmerston for life, when (with the exception of eighteen shares in the Welsh Slate Company, which her Ladyship may appoint and dispose of as she thinks proper) it is to revert to her son, the Right Hon. W. F. Cowper. His Lordship has also left to Lady Palmerston a life interest in all his real and leasehold estates as well in Ireland as in Great Britain, and on her Ladyship's decease they are devised to her said son absolutely; and the testator expresses his earnest wish (but without imposing an obligation on the devisee) that the right hon. gentleman will, immediately on coming into possession of the estates, apply for her Majesty's license and authority for him and his descendants to take and use the surname of "Temple," either in substitution for, or addition to, that of Cowper, but so that "Temple" be the final name; and that the family arms of "Temple" be quartered with those of "Cowper."—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.
A VERY limited business has been transacted this week in all National Securities, both for Money and Time, owing, chiefly, to the withdrawal of several of the large amounts in gold from the Bank of England for shipment to the Continent. Prices have, therefore, been depressed, with what may be termed a heavy market. Consols, for Transfer, have been done at 87½; Ditto for Time, 87½; reduced and New Three per Centa, 87½; Exchequer Bills, 86; 3s. 6d.; Bank Stock has been 24½ to 24½.
The dealings in the Stock Exchange have been very moderate. India Five per Centa, 102 to 102½; Rupee Paper, 102½ and 103; India Bonds, 100 to 100½ premium.
There has been a moderate, but by no means active, demand for money for commercial purposes. The rates, generally, are the lowest in the open market being as follows:—

Thirty Days' Bills	7 per cent.
Three Months'	7½
Six Months'	7½
One Year	7½

On Thursday the directors of the Bank of England advanced their minimum rate of discount to 7 per cent.
In the Exchange, loans for short periods have not been offered under 10s 10s per cent.
Very little business in the foreign exchanges, arising from the activity of bills.

Bar-silver is in active request, and the quotation has advanced to 61½ per cent. Mexican dollars have realised 60½ per cent.

In the market for Foreign Securities a very moderate business has been transacted. Spanish Securities show the principal change, the market for them having been heavy, at a decline of 1 per cent. Brazilian Four-and-a-half per Centa, have realised 67½ ex div.; Ditto 1863, 67½; Ditto 1864, 67½; Egyptian Seven per Centa, 80; Ditto 1864, 80; Italian Five per Centa, 74½; Ditto 1864, 74½; Mexican Three per Centa, 24½; Ditto 1864, 24½; Portuguese Three per Centa, 47½; Russian Old Five per Centa, 89; Ditto 1864, 89; Spanish Passiva, 27½; Ditto Certificates, 10½; Turkish Six per Centa 1888, 70½; Ditto 1862, 72½; Ditto, Five per Centa, 165½; Dutch Two-and-a-half per Centa, 62.

Joint-stock Bank Shares have been in limited request. Acra and Maternian's have sold at 57½; Alliance, 20½; Anglo-Austrian, 7; Bank of London, 141; Consolidated, 10½; English Joint-stock, 11 ex new; Imperial Ottoman, 14 ex new; London and Brazilian, 40½; London and County, 74½; London Joint-stock, 51; New Zealand, 1 ex div.; Sincere, Punjab, and Delhi, 61; Union of Africa, 24½; United Bank of London, 104.

There has been a fair demand for Colonial Government Securities. Canada Six per Centa, 187½-88, have been done at 95½; Ditto Five per Centa, 84½; Cape Six per Centa, 104½; Natal Six per Centa, 99½; New South Wales Five per Centa, 1888 to 1892, 90½; New Zealand Five per Centa, 1884; Queensland Six per Centa, 103½; and Victoria Six per Centa, 104½.

About an average business has been transacted in Miscellaneous Securities. Atlantic Telegraph, 7½ to 24½; City of London Real Estate, 4 ex div.; Credit Foncier and Mobilier of England, 9; Crystal Palace, 4 ex div.; Ditto Six per Cent Debentures, 11½; East India Corporation and Canal, 4 ex new; Eastern Warehouse, 11½; General Credit, 6½; International Financial, 6½; Joint-stock Discount, 9; London Financial, 20½; London General Omnibus, 3½; Ottoman Oriental, 12½; Overland, Gurney, and Co., 21½; Peninsula and Oriental Steam, 74 ex div.; Royal Mail Steam, 104; Bombay Gas, 55 ex all; Commercial, 1, 37½; Imperial, 80½; Westminster Chartered, 20½; Gas Corporation, 10½; London and County, 11½; London and County, 10½; London and Globe, 12½ ex div.; London, 47½; and Marine, 91.

The Railway Share Market is quiet; nevertheless, prices, on the whole, are tolerably firm. The calls falling due in January amount to £2,247,785.

METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—Owing, in some measure, to the holidays very little English wheat has been offered this week. The trade, however, has continued to be active, and at about steady prices. Foreign wheat—the show of which has been very moderate—has moved off heavily, on former terms. In floating cargoes of grain very little has been passing. Fine barley has commanded full prices, but grinding and distilling sorts have been much neglected, at barely late current rates. The sale for malt has been in a 41 sprich state, and last week's quotations. Oats have supported their previous value but both beans and peas, as well as flour, have moved off slowly, at late rates.

ENGLISH CURRENCY.—Wheat, 38s. to 32s.; barley, 27s. to 36s.; malt, 48s. to 64s.; oats, 19s. to 24s.; rye, 26s. to 28s.; beans, 42s. to 52s.; peas, 38s. to 44s. per quarter. Flour, 32s. to 40s. per 250 lb.

CATTLE.—The supplies of stock have been very moderate. Sales, however, have progressed slowly, as follows:—Beef, from 2s. 2d. to 8s.; mutton, 2s. 6d. to 4s.; veal, 4s. to 8s.; pork, 4s. to 5s. per 80 lb. to sink the calf.

SHEEP AND LEADENHALL.—The trade, generally, has been very inactive, at our quotations:—Beef, from 2s. 10d. to 4s. 6d.; mutton, 2s. 4d. to 5s. 4s.; veal, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 8d.; pork, 4s. to 5s. per 80 lb. by the carcass.

COLONIAL.—The whole of the colonial markets have been closed, consequently, no business has been transacted in them.

WINE.—Natives, for all kinds of wine, are a slow inquiry, at about last week's quotations. Bacon is steady, at late rates. In all other provisions very little is doing.

TALLOW.—Very little business is doing in our market. P.Y.C., on the spot, is selling at 48s. 6d. to 48s. 9d. per cwt.

OIL.—Lard is selling at 23s. 5d. per ton, on the spot. Rape is held at from 25s. to 26s. All other oils are very inactive. French turpentine, 45s. per cwt.

SPIRITS.—Rum is in fair request, at full quotations. Proof Leeward, 1s. 7d. to 1s. 8d.; and proof East India, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 7d. per gallon. Malt spirit, 12s. 6d. to 13s. 6d.; Hollands Geneva, 2s. 4d. to 2s. 5d.; British spirit, 11s. 11d. per gallon. Brandy is firm, and the best quality is in demand. Brandy is firm, and the best quality is in demand.

HAY AND STRAW.—Meadow hay, 4s. to 5s. 7s. 6d.; clover, 4s. to 5s. 10s.; and straw, 1s. 16s. to 2s. 2s. 5d. per ton.

COALS.—Hasting's Hartley, 18s. 9d.; Hartpool, 18s. 6d.; Tees, 19s. 6d.; N. H. Staffordshire, 18s. 6d. per ton.

WOOL.—The demand is wholly restricted to small parcels; never before the quotations are firm.

POTATOES.—The supplies are moderately extensive, and the demand is inactive at from 40s. to 100s. per ton.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, PICCADILLY.
Every evening at Eight. Wednesdays and Saturdays, Three and Eight.
An Extra Grand Day Performance on Monday (NEW-YEAR'S)
The original and veritable legitimate
CHRISTY MINSTRELS.
The only Company in existence which still retains all the marked specialities and popular favourites who originally distinguished this Company in 1855. First season in London these five years.
"The most charming and sparkling entertainment in London."
Vide Public Press.
Fantele, 5s.; Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Juveniles under Twelve Half-price to all parts of the house except the Gallery. Doors open at 7.30. Tickets and Places at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, Old Bond-street; and Austin's Ticket Office, 25, Piccadilly.
An Extra Day Performance
New-Year's Afternoon at Three (Monday).
Special Attractions for the little folk.

STODARE.—CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.
THEATRE OF MYSTERY, EGYPTIAN HALL.—Marvels in Magic and Ventriloquism, as performed by command before her Majesty the Queen and the Royal family at Windsor Castle, Towns, on the 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th of December, 1884. Great attractions for Christmas—Magic, Ventriloquism, Inextinguishable Showers of Gifts, the marvellous Sphinx, the Birth of Flower Trees, and Stodare's celebrated Indian Basket feat, as only performed by him. Every Evening, at Eight; Wednesday and Saturday, at Three. Stalls, at Mitchell's, Old Bond-street; and Box-office, Egyptian Hall. Admission, 1s. 2s.; Stalls, 3s.
"Almost miraculous."—*Vide "Times,"* April, 18, 1885.

WINTER EXHIBITION.—The Thirtieth
Annual WINTER EXHIBITION OF PICTURES, the contributions of British Artists, IS NOW OPEN, at the FRENCH GALLERY, 130, Pall-mall (opposite the Opera Colonnade). Admission, One Shilling; Catalogue, Sixpence.
LEON LEEFVRE, Secretary.

A WASHING-MACHINE, especially when combined with Wringing and Mangling, is most valuable. See Catalogue, post free, of BRADFORD'S New Patent Prize-Medal VOWEL MACHINES.—Address, 63, Fleet-street, London; also Manchester and Dublin.

THOMAS'S Patent SEWING-MACHINES, for Private Family use, Dressmaking, &c. Catalogue and Samples of the Work may be had on application to W. F. Thomas and Co., 66, Newgate-street; and Roper-street, Oxford-street.

DUTCH AND CAPE BULBS
FOR SPRING PLANTING.
TIMOTHY BRIDGES' ONE-GUINÉE COLLECTION
OF DUTCH BULBS contains the following:—
12 Fine Hyacinths, named. 12 Single Dutch and Tulip Tulips.
6 Hyacinths in Bunches. 12 Beautiful striped Tulips.
12 Mix do. for Borders. 6 Double do.
6 Polyanthus Narcissus. 6 Splendid White do.
6 Narcissus van Solen. 6 Splendid Yellow Tulips.
12 Double Dutch and Tulip Tulips. 100 Choice Crocus, four varieties.
12 Double Dutch and Tulip Tulips. 2 Lilium Speciosum.
20 Mixed Spanish Iris. 2 Lilium Longiflorum, beautifully scented.
12 Splendid Mix'd Anemones.
Or half the above for 10s. 6d.
Bulb and Seed Establishment, 33, King William-street, City. P.O.D. to be made payable at the General Post Office, St. Martin's-le-Grand.

BREAKFAST BEVERAGE.—Homœopathic
practitioners, and the medical profession generally, recommend COCOA as being the most healthful of all beverages. When the doctrine of homœopathy was first introduced into this country, there were to be seen no preparations of cocoa either attractive to the taste or acceptable to the stomach. It was either supplied in the crude state, or so unskillfully manufactured as to obtain little notice. J. E. FRY, of London, Homœopathic Chemist, was induced, in the year 1839, to turn his attention to this subject, and at length succeeded, with the assistance of elaborate machinery, in being the first to produce an article pure in its composition, and so refined by the perfect union of it with the best water either supplied in the crude state, or so unskillfully manufactured as to obtain little notice. J. E. 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